

WORLD & NATION

U.S. Envoy Meets Palestinians In Bid to Revive Peace Plan

THE NEW YORK TIMES

GAZA CITY, GAZA STRIP

The American-led peace plan showed signs of life Tuesday, as Palestinian officials said they were nearing a cease-fire agreement with three militant groups, including Hamas, responsible for the greatest number of suicide attacks against Israelis.

But in an atmosphere of little trust, Tuesday's tentative steps forward were marred by renewed violence: A 7-year-old Israeli girl was shot and killed late Tuesday night, and her 5-year-old sister seriously wounded, when at least one Palestinian gunman opened fire on the car they were riding in near Kibbutz Eyal, inside Israel to the northeast of Tel Aviv, the army reported.

The shooting took place near the Palestinian town of Kalkilya. Two adults, either parents or grandparents, were also injured in the attack, the army said.

Without a cease-fire agreement from Hamas, most experts agree, the peace plan introduced by President Bush two weeks ago has little chance. Tuesday, Hamas members carefully signaled their willingness to halt attacks on Israeli civilians, at least temporarily, as new American monitors visited Palestinian leaders for the first time and the Palestinian prime minister, Mahmoud Abbas, met with the militant groups.

"It is the proper time for hudna," Mahmoud Zahar, a top Hamas leader, said in an interview Tuesday, using the Arabic word for truce. "But it should not be without a national price."

Massachusetts Now Alone In Microsoft Antitrust Lawsuit

THE BOSTON GLOBE

Massachusetts Attorney General Thomas F. Reilly was left standing Monday night as the lone state attorney general still challenging the proposed settlement of the Microsoft Corp. antitrust case, after West Virginia said it was abandoning further appeals.

West Virginia's attorney general, Darrell V. McGraw Jr., late Monday said his state would withdraw its challenge as part of a broader settlement that also resolves antitrust suits filed under state law in West Virginia and class-action lawsuits against Microsoft in West Virginia. West Virginia and Massachusetts had been the last two states refusing to go along with the proposed settlement of the decade-long antitrust case against the software giant.

Reilly and other state attorneys general had argued that, after initially threatening to have Microsoft broken up like Standard Oil or AT&T, the government's proposed restrictions on Microsoft's conduct and exploitation of its monopoly in computer operating system software were far too weak.

Reilly Monday night said through a spokeswoman that he was unfazed by West Virginia's settlement. "Nothing has changed with West Virginia's decision to withdraw," Reilly spokeswoman Beth Stone said. "Last year we made the decision to appeal the Microsoft ruling and pursue a remedy that will protect consumers, bring back competition, and ensure corporate accountability. Those goals remain."

Oldest Tree in World Gives Birth

THE NEW YORK TIMES

A tree known as Methuselah, famed as the oldest in the world, has just produced evidence that life begins at 5,000, give or take a few years.

Today that evidence — a dozen baby bristlecone pine trees — are about nine inches long with green, bushy tops and long healthy roots.

A mere sprout itself when the pyramids of Egypt were being built, Methuselah clings to a dry windswept mountaintop in the Inyo National Forest of east-central California.

Last fall, there in the White Mountains, nearly two miles above sea level, a tree farmer named Jared Milarch harvested cuttings and pine cones from Methuselah with special permission from the U.S. Forest Service, which normally keeps the tree's location secret. After failing in an attempt to clone the tree, he planted seeds from the cones in a growing medium and, much to everyone's surprise, they sprouted.

Next month, a ceremony is being planned to recognize the new offspring, and one will be presented to the U.S. Botanic Garden on the grounds of the Capitol.

Experts are unsure whether Methuselah has borne any offspring in its native setting, a 28,000-acre preserve called the Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest. Very few seeds of the eerie small trees, some sculptured by the wind into fantastic bows and knots and waves, survive in that harsh environment. But with the help of humans, Methuselah is known to have reproduced itself at least one other time, in the 1970s.

"It had a 100 percent germination rate," said Le Roy Johnson, former director of the Institute of Tree Genetics in Placerville, Calif., who led the earlier effort.

"That's more than we get on most trees, let alone the oldest tree in the world," he said. Animals and plants lose their ability to reproduce as they age.

WEATHER

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

Extended Forecast

Today: Rain likely. High 72°F (22°C).

Tonight: Showers likely. Low 60°F (16°C).

Tomorrow: Scattered thunderstorms. High 75°F (24°C).

Friday: Chance of showers. High 75°F (24°C).

Saturday: Chance of showers. High 82°F (28°C).

Sunday: Mostly clear. High 82°F (28°C).

Court Rules Gov't Can Keep Sept. 11 Arrest Names Secret

By Neil A. Lewis

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

A sharply divided appeals court ruled Tuesday that the Bush Justice Department was within its rights when it refused to release the names of more than 700 people arrested for immigration violations in connection with the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

The 2-to-1 ruling by a panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit upheld the government's contention that disclosing the names of people arrested on immigration charges after the September 2001 attacks could help al-Qaida terrorists figure out how law-enforcement officials were conducting the nation's antiterrorist campaign.

The opinion extends a string of significant legal victories for the White House from federal judges as they begin to rule on challenges to the administration's actions in response to the terrorist attacks.

An appeals court in Philadelphia has already upheld the right of the administration to hold hearings in secret on possible immigration violations in connection with the attacks. Another panel of the

District of Columbia Circuit has ruled that the detainees at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba are outside the reach of American constitutional law.

And in January, the appeals court based in Richmond, Va., gave the administration a major victory in ruling that a wartime president like Bush could indefinitely detain a U.S. citizen captured as an enemy combatant on the battlefield and deny that person access to a lawyer.

Tuesday's case pitted two fundamental values against each other — the right of the public to know details of how its government operates versus the government's need to keep some information secret to protect national security.

The majority opinion written by Judge David B. Sentelle said that courts had always shown deference to executive branch officials in the field of national security.

"The need for deference in this case is just as strong as in earlier cases," he wrote in the opinion joined by Judge Karen LeCraft Henderson. "America faces an enemy just as real as its former Cold War foes."

Sentelle said that when govern-

ment officials tell the court that disclosing the names of the detainees will produce harm, "It is abundantly clear that the government's top counterterrorism officials are well suited to make this predictive judgment. Conversely, the judiciary is in an extremely poor position to second-guess" government views in the field of national security.

Judge David S. Tatel offered a blistering dissent, saying that the majority of the court simply agrees with what he says is the Bush administration's demand to "simply trust its judgment."

Tatel wrote that "by accepting the government's vague, poorly explained allegations, and by filling in the gaps in the government's case with its own assumptions about facts absent from the record, this court has converted deference into acquiescence."

The opinion also demonstrated again the ideological divide on the nation's appeals court and especially the D.C. Circuit, widely viewed as second in importance only to the Supreme Court. Sentelle and Henderson are Republican appointees while Tatel is a Democratic appointee.

President Bars Racial Profiling Except for Nat'l Security Cases

By Eric Lichtblau

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Bush issued guidelines on Tuesday barring federal agents from using race or ethnicity in their routine investigations.

But the policy carves out clear exemptions for investigations involving terrorism and national security matters.

The policy governs the conduct of 70 federal law enforcement agencies. A narcotics agent, for instance, cannot focus on a specific neighborhood simply because of its racial make-up, the policy states.

In national security operations, however, the policy allows agents to use race and ethnicity in "narrow" circumstances to help "identify terrorist threats and stop potential catastrophic attacks," officials said.

Immigration officials, for

instance, will continue to be able to require visitors from largely Middle Eastern countries to register with the government.

And if intelligence officials had information indicating that terrorists of a certain ethnic group planned to hijack a plane next week in California, authorities could impose "heightened scrutiny" on men of that ethnicity who boarded planes in that area, officials said.

Arab-American and civil rights groups said that the loopholes in the White House policy would give the authorities legal justification to single out Middle Easterners and others who may fall under suspicion, and they questioned whether the new policy — issued as "guidance" — would be aggressively enforced.

"This policy acknowledges racial profiling as a national concern, but it does nothing to stop it,"

Laura Murphy, director of the Washington office of the American Civil Liberties Union, said in an interview. "It's largely a rhetorical statement. The administration is trying to soften its image, but it's smoke and mirrors."

"The way the president looks at it," a White House spokesman, Scott McClellan, said, "this is about stopping the abuses of a few, and the action on Tuesday should only strengthen the public's confidence that the vast majority of law enforcement officials have earned and deserve credit for the job they do in protecting Americans."

The policy lays out two distinct sets of guidelines: a broad prohibition on profiling in traditional and often routine law enforcement investigations; and a looser set of standards for national security cases.

SCO Group Accuses Linus Torvalds Of Laxity on Copyrights, Patents

By Steve Lohr

THE NEW YORK TIMES

In a new court document, the SCO Group criticizes Linus Torvalds, the guardian of the freely shared Linux operating system.

SCO's amended suit against IBM, filed late Monday, contends that Torvalds, who has overseen the development of Linux, appears to have a casual attitude toward intellectual property rights. Linux is distributed free and improved upon by a far-flung network of developers.

SCO, based in Lindon, Utah, sued IBM in March, contending that the computer company improperly copied Unix code into Linux.

SCO bought the source code and license rights to Unix in 1995. IBM denies the allegations and counters that SCO is vastly overstating its contract rights.

If source code is copied from

protected Unix code," the SCO filing states, "there is no way for Linus Torvalds to identify that fact."

Torvalds developed the software engine, or kernel, of Linux as a university student in Finland in 1991. Today, Torvalds lives in Silicon Valley and he still oversees the Linux kernel, though with many contributions from others.

SCO executives assert there is a "don't ask, don't tell" mentality toward intellectual property that pervades the Linux programming culture. As an example, they point to an e-mail message exchange last August on the Linux mailing list. One programmer said there was a patent matter that "we can't just ignore."

Torvalds replied, "Actually, we can, and I will," adding, "I do not look up any patents on principle because (a) it's a horrible waste of time and (b) I don't want to know."

"The fact is technical people are better off not looking at patents. If you don't know what they cover and where they are, you won't be knowingly infringing on them," Torvalds wrote last August.

In an e-mail interview earlier this month, Torvalds explained that his was a candid view in the murky, complex realm of software patents these days.

"Hey, one of the advantages of not personally being involved in any of the commercial Linux players is that I can be honest," Torvalds wrote. "In fact, openness pretty much requires it — there is no corporate speak here. Ask any lawyer in a tech company (off the record, so that he can be honest too), and he'll tell you that engineers should absolutely not try to look up other people's patents. It's not their job, and you don't want them tainted."

Archdiocese in Boston Warns Of Layoffs, Health Benefit Cuts

By Fox Butterfield

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BOSTON

Underscoring the financial difficulty facing the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston as a result of the clergy sexual abuse scandal and a sagging economy, Bishop Richard G. Lennon warned his parish priests on Tuesday that because almost 100 churches are withholding money from the archdiocese, he will order them to start laying off employees or cut their health benefits.

Lennon, who took over as the interim administrator of the archdiocese after Cardinal Bernard F. Law resigned in December, told the priests that, "This may well be painful for some," but that the archdiocese had to bring its costs and resources into balance.

The shortfall averages about \$15,000 a parish, the Rev. Christopher Coyne, a spokesman for the archdiocese, said. It now amounts to a \$9.4 million budget gap.

The money is supposed to be paid by Boston's 360 parishes into a

central trust fund, then returned by the archdiocese to help individual churches pay for the pension benefits and health insurance of its lay employees and the insurance costs for its buildings, Coyne said.

"We just don't have the available funds to make these payments," he said.

If the 100 parishes do not start making payments by July 1, Coyne said, Lennon will send out a "letter of termination," meaning the lay employees could lose their health insurance, their jobs, or both.

Coyne said the archdiocese had raised only \$4.5 million of a projected \$9 million annual giving campaign that is crucial to operating its schools and charities in Boston. Last year, before the scandal became public, the original goal for the annual campaign was \$17.4 million.

Moreover, an ambitious capital campaign started by Law to raise \$300 million is now likely to fall \$100 million short, church officials here said. The archdiocese's budget

this year has been cut by 20 percent, following a 30 percent reduction last year.

In 2002 alone the number of active priests fell by 10 percent, caused mostly by the removal of those accused of sexually molesting minors. That leaves the Boston Archdiocese with 505 priests, according to the archdiocesan directory, down from 1,072 priests two decades ago.

Even these figures do not fully describe the troubles facing the Boston Archdiocese.

For example, each parish is also supposed to contribute 1 percent of its weekly offerings to the Boston headquarters, in what is known as the cathedralic, an amount that can reach anywhere from \$3,000 to \$9,000 a year.

But many priests say they have stopped sending their weekly offerings to protest how the church hierarchy handled the sexual abuse scandals and out of concern that the money will be used to pay legal settlements.

Republicans Dismiss Questions About Strength of Iraq Evidence

By David E. Sanger and Carl Hulse

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Despite growing questions about whether the White House exaggerated the evidence about Saddam Hussein's chemical and biological weapons, President Bush and his aides believe that the relief that Americans feel about Saddam's fall in Iraq will overwhelm any questions about the case the administration has built against him, administration officials and Republican strategists say.

For two days, Bush has characterized his critics as engaging in "revisionist history," and he has dwelled on the outcome of the war rather than the urgent nature of the threat that he described, almost daily, to build support for military action. As part of the drive to limit the political fallout, Republicans have moved quickly to resist Democrats' calls for a summer of public hearings, even as the intelligence committees of both houses begin reviewing intelligence material delivered by the CIA.

"We see a very similar pattern to the commentary around the military campaigns in Afghanistan and Iraq — the premature drawing of conclusions, based on a picture that is still incomplete," said Dan Bartlett, Bush's director for communications.

"Americans are patient. They are willing to wait and see what we find."

One senior member of the president's national security team, who was deeply involved in making the case against Saddam, said he believed weapons would ultimately be found. Even if little is ultimately discovered, the official said, "I think we can ride this out," because Americans — more than Europeans — need little convincing that Saddam posed a threat to the United States and its allies.

Still, Democrats are pressing the case, led by Sen. John D. Rockefeller IV of West Virginia, the senior Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee, who is calling for open and closed hearings — and a report by the end of the year, when the presidential primaries are in full gear.

Republican pollsters and strategists said feelings about the war among the electorate have been shaped as much by a sense of pride about freeing the Iraqi people from Saddam's government as by the military accomplishment.

A CBS News poll released three days ago shows that a growing number of Americans believe that the administration overestimated Iraq's capabilities. But it does not appear to make a difference: 62 percent said that the ouster of Saddam was, by

itself, worth the cost in American lives.

"We may have gone to war because of weapons of mass destruction, but we have made our conclusions based on the reaction of the Iraqi people," said Frank Luntz, a Republican pollster. "Are we relieved? Yes," Luntz said. "Do we feel good about ourselves? Absolutely."

Yet some Republicans remain worried — in part because they fear that the rising tide of criticism in Britain against Prime Minister Tony Blair could leap the Atlantic. If the British investigation gains steam, they note, the echo in Washington could be significant. "After all," said one senior diplomat of a coalition country, "we were all working off the same shared evidence. If it was wrong for one, it was wrong for all."

The White House is betting that no Democrats will ultimately want to challenge whether ousting Saddam was a good decision. "Every time the Democrats talk about this stuff, they run the risk of having it backfire," Glen Bolger, a Republican pollster, said. "Ultimately, voters don't believe that Democrats handle national security and the war on terror as well as they think the Republicans do."

Microsoft Files 15 Lawsuits on Spam, AOL, Earthlink, Yahoo Also File Suits

By Saul Hansell

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Microsoft, the world's largest provider of e-mail accounts, filed lawsuits on Tuesday against 15 groups of individuals and companies that it says collectively sent its clients more than 2 billion unwanted e-mail messages.

Unwanted e-mail, commonly called spam, has been a fast growing problem for all e-mail users. And Microsoft's Hotmail service, with 140 million users, has been a fat target for spammers. The company estimates that more than 80 percent of the more than 2.5 billion e-mail messages sent each day to Hotmail users are spam. It now blocks most of those spam messages.

All of the large Internet providers, including America Online, Earthlink and Yahoo, have started filing lawsuits against e-mailers they claim are sending spam. Microsoft's suits represent

the largest number filed at one time, and reflect Microsoft's willingness to devote some of its considerable resources to fighting spam. It promised that there are more such actions to come.

"We at Microsoft are ramping up our efforts to combat spam," said Brad Smith, Microsoft's general counsel, at a news conference on Tuesday.

But many experts say that these suits do little to prevent spam.

"At the end of the day, this is a drop in the bucket," said Ray Everett-Church, the chief privacy officer, of the ePrivacyGroup, a consulting company. He said that the several dozen suits against spammers so far have had no noticeable effect deterring other spammers.

"Right now the big service providers see spam as a point of differentiation," Everett-Church said. "And these suits are much more of a marketing campaign than an anti-spam campaign."

Smith of Microsoft, however, argued that these lawsuits were an important part of a multipronged approach to fighting spam. In addition to lawsuits, Microsoft has introduced software to filter out spam for its MSN internet access service and will include similar software in the next release of its Outlook e-mail program.

Twelve of the suits filed on Tuesday were in state court in Washington state. They brought claims under both the Federal Computer Fraud and Abuse Act and a Washington state anti-spam law. One suit was filed in California state court, and two filed were in the United Kingdom. The defendants include many businesses involved in e-mail marketing.

In some cases, Microsoft was not able to identify the sender of the spam. It filed several suits against unnamed John Doe defendants. That tactic allows it to use subpoenas and other techniques to try to identify the spammers.

Brain Experts Follow the Money In Studying Decision Making

By Sandra Blakeslee

THE NEW YORK TIMES

People are efficient, rational beings who tirelessly act in their own self-interest. They make financial decisions based on reason, not emotion. Naturally, most save money for that proverbial rainy day.

Right?

No. In making financial decisions, people are regularly influenced by gut feelings and intuitions. They cooperate with total strangers, gamble away the family paycheck and squander their savings on investments touted by known liars. Such human frailties may seem far too complicated and unpredictable to fold into economic equations. But now many neuroscientists are beginning to argue that it is time to create a new field of study, called neuroeconomics.

These researchers are busy scanning the brains of people as they make economic decisions, barter, compete, cooperate, defect, punish, engage in auctions, gamble and calculate their next economic moves. Based on their understanding of how fluctuations in neurons and brain chemicals drive those behaviors, the neuroscientists are expressing their findings in differential equations and other mathematical language beloved by economists.

"This new approach, which I consider a revolution, should provide a theory of how people decide in economic and strategic situations," said Dr. Aldo Rustichini, an economics professor at the University of Minnesota. "So far, the decision process has been for economists a black box."

Dr. Jonathan Cohen, a professor of cognitive neuroscience at Princeton, agreed. "Most economists don't base their theories on people's actual behavior," he said. "They study idealized versions of human behavior, which they assume is optimal in achieving gains."

To explore economic decision making, researchers are scanning the brains of people as they engage in a variety of games designed by experimental economists. The exercises are intended to make people anticipate what others will do or what others will infer from the person's own actions. The games also reveal some fundamental facts about the brain that economists are just beginning to learn and appreciate.

In a study published in the current issue of the journal *Science*, Cohen and his colleagues took images of people's brains as they played the ultimatum game, a test of fairness between two people.

In the ultimatum game, the first player is given, say, \$10 in cash. He must then decide how much to give to a second player. It could be \$5, the fairest offer, or a lesser amount depending on what he thinks he can get away with. If Player 2 accepts the offer, the money is shared accordingly. But if he rejects it, both players go away empty-handed. It is a one-shot game, and the players never meet again.

Most people in the shoes of Player 2 refuse to take amounts under \$2 or \$3, Cohen said. They would rather punish the first player than feel cheated. "But this makes no economic sense," he said. "You're better off with something than nothing."

Brain images showed that when players accepted an offer they viewed as fair enough, a circuit in the front of their brains that supports deliberative thinking was activated. When they rejected an offer, the insula — which monitors bodily states, including disgust — overrode the frontal circuit. The more strongly the insula fired, the more rapidly the person rejected the offer, Cohen said. Moreover, the insula fired well before the person pushed the button to refuse an offer.

Economists can use this finding to quantify the contribution of emotion and deliberation in making decisions, Cohen said. It is possible to calculate how much emotion goes into evaluating the worth of economic activities and to study the neural underpinnings of bargaining when people don't want to let others take advantage of them.

Dr. P. Read Montague, a neuroscientist at Baylor University in Houston, is using gambling tasks to identify individual differences in willingness to take monetary risks. Bullish investors have different patterns of dopamine release compared to bearish investors, he said. In a game of mutual trust, women's brains show a big dopamine or reward response when they are trusted by others; there is no such response in men's brains.

At other universities, neuroscientists are exploring brain activity aroused in various economic games. In the prisoner's dilemma, which tests a person's willingness to cooperate or defect, players show a particular pattern of neural firing before they betray another player. Cooperation is captured in dopamine flows. Similarly, it is possible to trace circuits activated when people anticipate making or losing money, decide to trust a stranger or punish freeloaders in a game of sharing public goods.

The brain is particularly responsive to unexpected or unpredictable rewards, said Dr. Gregory Berns, a neuroscientist at Emory University in Atlanta. When uncertainty is high, as in gambling situations, the brain can get high on dopamine and even become addicted to it. Expectations alter economic experience. It feels better to get nothing when you expect \$10 compared to getting nothing when you expect \$90, researchers say.

Montague says the brain seizes on patterns and deludes itself into thinking that short sequences predict long ones. For example, after flipping three tails in a row, many people expect the next toss to be heads. By contrast, if a stock does well two quarters in a row, they expect it to continue doing well. Such intuitions lead people to adopt a false sense of confidence and tolerate losses for longer than they should, he said.

Neuroscience may shed light on all sorts of economic behavior, said Dr. George Loewenstein, an economist at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. "Under the influence of powerful emotions or drives, people often end up doing the opposite of what they think is best for themselves, even at the moment of acting," he said.

For example, many people will choose a smaller award that arrives soon as opposed to a larger reward that arrives later. The future is uncertain. Why wait?

For now, neuroeconomic experiments tell more about individuals and small groups than about markets and economies, said Dr. Colin Camerer, an economics professor at the California Institute of Technology and author of a new book, "Behavioral Game Theory."

But plans are afoot to study the brains of many people in scanners linked by the Internet as they play economic games, Camerer said.

The stock market is a reflection of decisions being made by millions of brains. Eventually it should be possible to study groups of brains to unravel mysteries about the formation of market bubbles and why they break. Or why people continue to spend money when the stock market falls. Or whether tax cuts will have a bearing on what people do.

OPINION

Revisiting Gays in ROTC



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Once again, we see that the best way to solve a problem at MIT is to bury it in a committee and wait a few years. The latest such situation is MIT's conflict with the military on the admission of gays into Reserve Officer Training Corps programs. Thirteen years ago, MIT faculty made a rather strong declaration that this situation would be resolved. Either the program

would have to be changed in order to fully incorporate gay cadets, or it would be suspended. The plan originally called for the end of freshman enrollment in ROTC for the class entering in 1998 if change had not been made for 1995. In particular, the resolution called for MIT and other schools to "work for reversal of the [Department of Defense] policy," according to the faculty declaration.

MIT President Charles M. Vest assembled a committee in late 1995 to determine whether change had occurred; their final report, dated March 20, 1996, determined that adequate progress had not been made toward a change of DOD policy toward non-discrimination. By the original terms of the faculty declaration, ROTC should have been kicked off campus — something that was likely never to happen. If MIT were to suspend the program, it would jeopardize funding from the DOD, a major source of funding.

So what could be done? In the past, a gay ROTC student was discovered, the student's scholarship was revoked, and a court ordered him to pay back the money already received. Following the federal policy change, no reimbursement was required for any dismissed student nationwide. Bravely, MIT decided to pick up the tab on the scholarship for other stu-

dents faced with this dilemma, but this policy has gone sorely underadvertised at MIT. No one has yet had to take advantage of the reinsurance policy, but knowing about it would at least encourage gay students to apply for scholarships without great financial risk.

Other avenues have been explored. The committee made a recommendation for an alternative ROTC program that would allow openly gay cadets. The only difference? They would be ineligible for a commission in the armed forces, the ultimate payoff — and purpose — of the program for scholarship students. This is certainly a step in the right direction. So what happened?

The alternative ROTC policy was never adopted. There is still no possibility of an openly gay cadet serving at MIT, despite the work of the 1996 commission. Little exploration has happened since then, despite the claim in the MIT Bulletin that the discrepancy is currently under review. Reinsurance is an excellent step and must be actively promoted in the Bulletin, as recommended by the faculty in 1996, and elsewhere.

MIT has two further obligations to fulfill. It must promote its recommended program or another alternative, and it must open a sustained dialogue with other academic institutions to change DOD policy. The timing might be right: President Bush recently appointed an openly gay man to his administration, and the role of women in the military, another hot button in the past, is increasing. From the beginning, President Vest has shown great courage in his drive to promote equal opportunity so far. Let us hope he has the constitution to take the fight to the finish.



Erratum

A June 9 article ["2004 President Resigns In Plagiarism Scandal"] misstated one word in a sentence used by Alvin M. Lin '04 to apologize for plagiarizing another class officer's platform, and consequently misstated the relationship between that sentence and one used by President Clinton. They were not identical. In an e-mail to the class, Lin wrote that his actions "constituted a crucial lapse of judgment," not a "critical lapse of judgment" as Clinton admitted in 1998 about his relationship with Monica S. Lewinsky.

A March 11 pop review ["Enslaving the Masses"] misstated the name of the drummer performing in the band Burning Brides. He was Jason Kourounis, not Mike Ambs. Ambs was formerly a drummer for the group.

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Editorials are the official opinion of *The Tech*. They are written by the editorial board, which consists of the chairman, editor in chief, managing editor, opinion editors, a photography editor, and an arts editor.

Dissents are the opinions of signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

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Honor Among Scouts

Atif Z. Qadir

"American history has very few people who have represented honor and integrity such as him. His fame is worldwide. Everything [for] which he stood are virtues [to] which all people should subscribe." Which famous American is being lauded in this statement? Washington? King? Lincoln? How about Robert E. Lee? Recently, the executive board of the Boy Scouts of America's Robert E. Lee Council No. 602 decided to remove the Civil War general's name from its identifier and uniform patch. This directly affects approximately 22,000 scouts and 7,500 adult leaders in the Richmond, Virginia area. Interestingly, representatives of the council scoff at the notion that this is an example of political correctness, while opponents say that political correctness is the only reason.

The most vocal proponents of the executive board's decision to rename Council No. 602 include the NAACP. King S. Khalfani, the head of Virginia's NAACP declared that "it is something whose time has truly come. Because [the name] has been a sticking point for many in the African-American community, and many progressives and non-confederate-loving whites." The council's leader, Robert A. Tugle, waffles on the

issue by saying such contradictory statements as "it was the right thing to do" and "changing the name has nothing to do with the character or opinions of Lee." He insists that "we want a name that is more geographically descriptive — people will know what part of the country we're in."

Such an excuse belies the fundamental reason, which is to eliminate the connection to the confederate army, and thus slavery. Although it said that states' rights, not slavery, were the main contention of the Civil War, this should not marginalize the largest and most well-organized form of racial oppression in American history. It is impossible to separate an army from the conditions and ambitions of its state, and thus excuse soldiers and army officials for "just doing what they were told to do." This free pass from associative guilt is what allows Robert E. Lee to be considered a "hero" today. Even in loss, the New South's political and economic slavery, including Jim Crow laws, voting restrictions, and the convict-lease program, as in Parchman Penitentiary, were equally perverse. What then does dropping the name really mean to accomplish?

Opponents of the decision actually recognize this as a political one, but are disappointed that "scouts have taken the easy way out," though it is unclear what the "hard way" would be. Brag Bowling, the coman-

der of the state's division of the Sons of Confederate Veterans went on to call the action "shameful." Such a racially and morally charged statement is an example of the majority projecting its opinions and history (one scout leader noted that the name "is a tradition that goes back a long way") as those of the entire society. Opponents are correct in not wanting the name changed, but arrived to it with incorrect logic.

The Boy Scouts of America should not remove the name because doing so would be creating an alibi to forget a shameful period of United States history. In attempting to de-politicize their organization's moniker, the Robert E. Lee Council of the Boy Scouts of America is shirking the burden of memory and abetting the expansion of historical vacuum. Similar questions haunted post-WWII Berlin, where the conundrum was how to de-Nazify buildings and built environments. One option often taken in Berlin was the dedication of the places of perpetrators to the honor of their victims. Such historical self-flagellation would help white Southerners avoid facing up to their identity as the land of their racist and slave-holding forebears. The name of the Robert E. Lee Council should remain as a constant reminder of the responsibility of not forgetting.

Atif Z. Qadir earned the rank of Eagle Scout 3 years ago.

Gay Marriage: Social Progress

Andrew C. Thomas

It almost seems unthinkable that people would take issue with the happiness of others. This happens all too regularly in our society when someone thinks they know what is best for others or out of protectiveness, jealousy or disgust. These feelings are on the rise as certain gay rights issues are making the headlines. Canadian editorial pages are abuzz after an Ontario court ruled that marriage licenses could not be legally kept from same-sex couples.

As a result, the definition of marriage was changed in Ontario statutes from the union of a man and a woman to the union of two people. Debates are ongoing in newspapers and kitchens across Canada. We've seen similar debates here in the States, long before Vermont legalized gay marriage.

But nothing draws more controversy than offending the sensibilities or sensitivities of the common citizen. The idea of two men or women "abusing" the privilege given to traditional couples is more irritating to some than, for example, famine and genocide in Africa, two terribly important issues that continue to broil without a great deal of attention.

We have a far bigger problem at the root of this debacle; the entire concept of Western morality has found a new battleground. Pat Buchanan put it succinctly as the "relentless drive to overthrow the moral code that has

guided Western civilization since Constantine" on the part of gay activism. I couldn't agree more, but what Buchanan and other ideologues cling to so desperately is the notion that morality is an immutable entity handed down from above, untampered by the actions of mortal men, while failing to realize that even morality cannot remain fixed. Science has been intertwined with morality since morals were codified. Among other examples, the prohibition of pork in the Jewish faith was largely due to the high risk of trichinosis when prepared by an inexperienced chef.

The attitude is not limited to the past; many, including Buchanan, suggest that homosexual behavior, particularly sodomy, is immoral since it propagates HIV and other viruses. This again is a severe blurring of fact with fear. The spread of HIV comes from a lack of responsibility, just as teen pregnancy does. And before I receive all sorts of colorful hate mail on this, I recognize that this is an intractable argument; Buchanan and his cronies would no doubt apply the same arguments to (or rather against) premarital sex for exactly the same reasons.

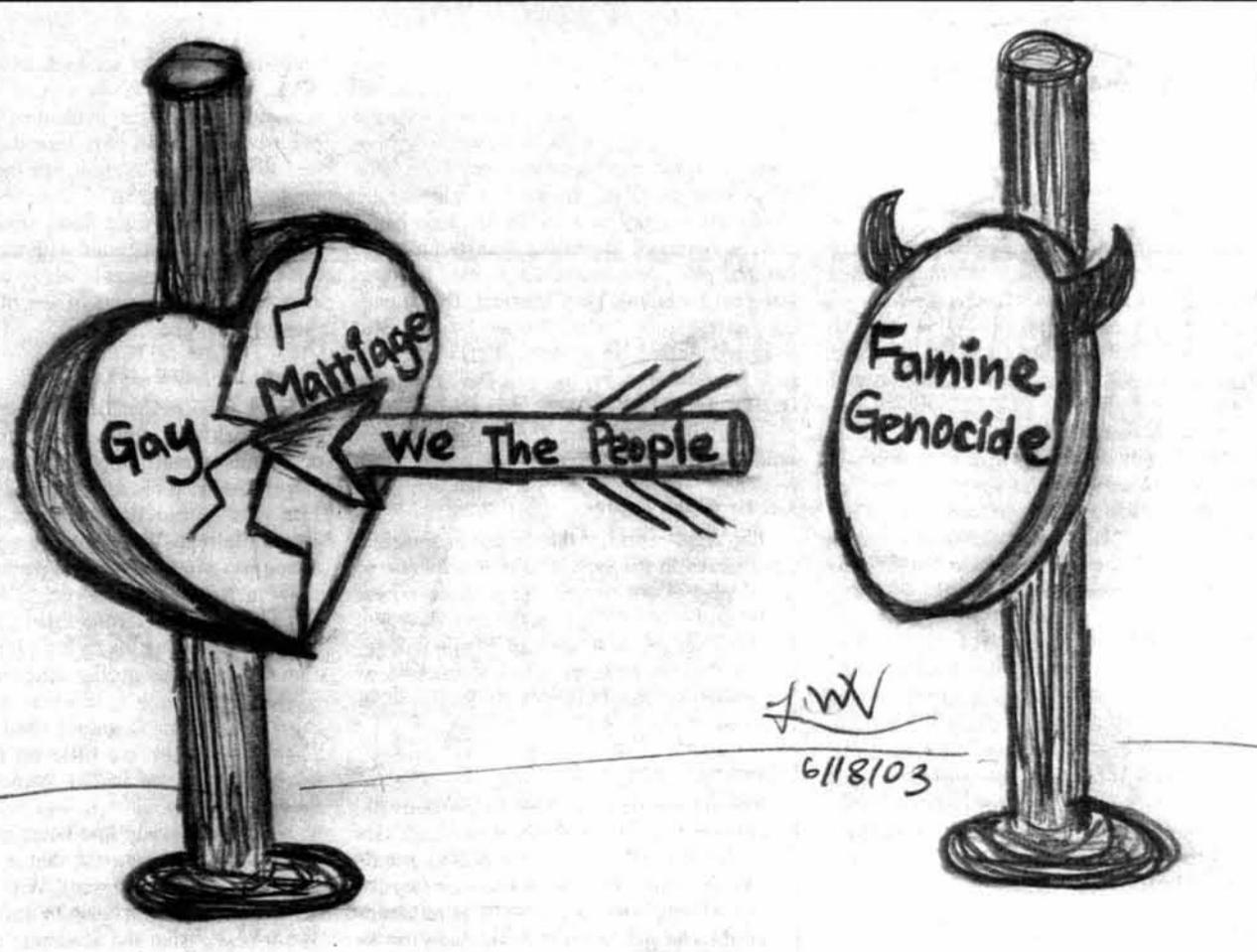
Buchanan's appeal, however limited, is grounded in the basis of tradition. Comfort has always been taken in things that do not change, which is why so many people continue to cling to the dangerous judicial concept of an eye-for-an-eye, no matter how generally they choose to apply it. Plenty of other decisions have been made in history

that break the established "moral code" for pragmatic reasons. Slavery was an accepted practice for far too long; I suspect that the prime pragmatic reason for its continuance was a need for cheap labor, one that became easier to shake off with the advent of industrialization, no matter how much compassion the church body had for the earthly situation of slaves.

There are valid questions to be asked about the issue of gay marriage. Far too many people think that the most important purpose of marriage is to produce children. Take this definition at face value and you discriminate against the infertile, and discount adoption. Others see marriage as a financial union, an angle that shouldn't even factor into a discussion of morality.

So we almost naturally come to the prickly issue of sexuality, and suddenly the pragmatic reasons for opposing gay marriage disappear. This is why people are offended at seeing pictures of gay couples kissing in the newspaper, which *The London (Ontario) Free Press* was brave enough to publish last week, but for some reason are not nearly as offended by pictures of war and death.

The debate now seems hopelessly quagmired. If any change is to come, it must be an internal one. Someone in the church must stand up against dogma and help to reinforce a more idealistic, inclusive notion of morality, not one tainted by outdated pragmatic concerns.



Letters to The Tech

letters@the-tech.mit.edu

ARTS

INTERVIEW

The Beauty of Dar

Folk Singer Dar Williams Discusses Her Life, Her Loves, and Her Latest CD

By Keith J. Winstein

NEWS AND FEATURES DIRECTOR

Dar Williams' latest CD, *The Beauty of the Rain*, is a 37-minute pearl of catchy and somber songs that Williams is now playing on tour across the United States. The album has sold 72,000 copies since its release in February, according to SoundScan, already more than the 52,000 for *Out There Live*, her previous CD released in 2001. *The Tech* recently caught up with Williams — who travels under a pseudonym even when staying in an Indianapolis hotel — for a telephone interview.

The Tech: What process do you take writing your songs? Do they just pop out?

Dar Williams: Nope. Patience is not my virtue anywhere but songwriting. A lot of times if I try to force a song, try and sit down and tell myself I need to be writing, I'll just crumple up the whole page the next day. I mean the whole thing.

I walked outside last night. There was this lightning that was just sort of passing from crowd to crowd. It seemed sort of like something you would hear about in Buddhism. It reminded me of passion at certain points in your life. That's the kind of thing, find yourself waiting for the metaphor to really assert itself, and you write these things down and sort of talk them away, but generally when you write a song you mix sitting down with your guitar and sort of thinking about it or find yourself sort of steeped in it conceptually or giving into a sort of serendipity.

TT: This is the MIT newspaper, so here's an MIT question: The standard deviation on the lengths of your songs is down from 51 seconds, on *Out There Live*, to just 37 seconds on this release. The average length is down from 4:10 to 3:25. And the whole CD is only 37 minutes, versus 71 minutes on *Out There*. So the question is ...

Williams: (laughs) I'm becoming a pop song writer! Well, no. I think economy was something I was pushing for. I don't know if I just happened upon too many reviews that say I was all words in my songs, or if I heard pop songs that I liked and wanted to try to say more with words than they did or if it seemed like an exercise for my brain.

When you get older, you want to say more with less because time is dear and important,

'I think ambiguity put me more into that cool blur between the gay movement and the allies.'

is this kind of contract with teenagers that high school is a safe time, and their sense of betrayal is really acute.

TT: At your concert, I met several of your diehard fans, and some of them were shocked to learn you were married and weren't gay yourself. How do you feel about having your songs become almost anthems for young lesbianism?

Williams: That's a complicated question. Some of the strongest feminist inspirations for me have been lesbian writers and lesbian speakers and lesbian friends. So that's one thing.

Number two, I didn't want to cash in on breeder status: "Don't worry, it's safe, you can like me, men or homosexual women," because so much of the music industry is predicated on the male gaze of the camera: "Are you the doe in the headlights, are you the bad girl, are you the good girl, are you the virgin." I wanted to be self-identified, I wanted to jump through that loophole, and I also wanted to be equal-opportunity in terms of who I reached in terms of my lyrics. Therefore I was not clear about my own sexuality, therefore I was pretty gender-neutral in my songs, and I

'I didn't want to cash in on breeder status.'

and you don't have to say everything. So I think that that's that because it's interesting.

TT: Some of your critics say *Beauty of the Rain* is too abstract, too Yoko Ono ...

Williams: Well, that's bullshit. A lot of people have said they [the *Beauty* songs] were pop because they think these songs are more accessible, so there we are.

So when I talk to journalists under 25, there is this question about whether I'm trying to go pop. And that's not a question I get from journalists who are over 25. Some day maybe I'll write an article about you.

It's true, the music needs to have a certain purity of intention. The question of whether the artist is selling out is really a very important question. I think that a lot of younger listeners, people to whom music is very important and so the writer is very important, have been sort of poised since my second album with that fear. There

you identified yourself, while the 90s were more about allies and transcendence, and whether this person is a lesbian or a lesbian ally, can we kind of all be on the same boat in terms of seeing this as a really important social movement to grow. And I was helping to grow it and make the "are you/are you not?" question less important. And that could have been because we were all tackling the issue of: I was a big ally but I was not a lesbian.

This is my personal opinion, but I think I would have sounded kind of prissy saying,

"Okay, I'm straight, but I love you girls."

It seemed like it would be too tokenizing of lesbians. I think ambiguity put me more into that cool blur between the gay movement and the allies, made it a more fluid connection between the two.

And then it just got to a point where I just couldn't find a date. So I had to come out or else I could never find a date.

TT: More than most singers, your fame has been built on the Internet, but you must have sort of mixed feelings about fans sharing their love of your music by illegally trading copies of your recordings, or your lyrics, or guitar tablatures. How do you feel about that?

Williams: Well, I'm off the beaten track, but I'll tell you, the better known you are, the more of a bummer it is. And the

'Some day maybe I'll write an article about you.'

'I had to come out or else I could never find a date.'

better known you are, usually the more people do it to you. If you're playing for 30 people, and they know that your career is where you need to sell three CDs in order to have enough gas money to get to your next gig, that audi-

ence is aware of that.

If you're basically an artist who is known and loved for their entertainment value and you're associated with a major label, there's a sort of "Who would notice?" mentality, and it is sort of like peeing at McDonald's. You sort of think, "They put all these golden arches around the landscape, they owe me one."

I love hearing about people putting songs on mix tapes, and I love hearing about people who heard about me in one way or another. I used to tape stuff off of my Dad's record collection as a kid, and I remember my handwriting on those tapes.

But I think that's how I feel about kids. I did a photo shoot recently with somebody who is an affluent grown person who works with musicians and showed me his collection of burned CDs and asked me what I wanted to listen to, and I didn't dig it. It gave me a chill, that there was absolutely no ethic around downloading those things.

I think kids sharing, I think mix-tape sharing, that makes me very happy. That big picture, about people being moved, it's like how you connect to music is the footprint in the sand. You are able to be imprinted in a very special way to the world when you listen to music.

There is a line that gets crossed sometimes that does give me sort of a spook. I like the ethic of people buying the whole thing. Instead of spending a dollar on that CD and getting it from your friend, don't you want the lyrics and the liner notes and who I said thanks to?

I don't care if anyone wants to get my guitar tabs [on the Internet] because I only have one songbook anyway.

TT: I took the liberty of e-mailing the Dar list [her diehard fans] and asking them what questions they had for you.

Williams: Uh oh.

TT: So number one, they want to know if you're planning on having children.

Williams: Tell them that this [*The Beauty of the Rain*] is the only child I'm focused on right now. Getting this record into the world. It's very important to me to do this tour. It's fabulous but stressful, kind of like having a child. Some day I would love to have kids.

TT: Number two, what books are you reading these days?

Williams: They'll be very disappointed; I'm reading mystery novels by Laurie King. It just really helps my brain to read mystery books, so on tour that's what I've been reading.

TT: And number three, they want to know how that song about your husband is going.

Williams: (laughs) Slowly but surely. Oh no! It's going to go more slowly now that I know they're waiting for it.

TRAVELOGUE

What To Do In The City That Never Sleeps

New York City Has Much To Offer: Museums, Shows, and a Real Baseball Team

By Scott Lee

Living in the ivory tower of Cambridge for so long, we often become curious to see what the world outside of Boston has to offer. Specifically, the city down the I-95 — with the baseball team that seems to defeat the Red Sox every year in the pennant race — tends to pique our interest every now and then. New York has more arts and entertainment concentrated on its 15 square miles than any other city on Earth. *The Tech* has scoured the city to find the most interesting and worthy venues for your time.

Here are, in reverse order, our top New York City excursions.

Museum Mile

The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Whitney, the Guggenheim, Museo del Barrio, Museum of New York are all located along 5th Avenue on the Upper East Side. All of these have outstanding exhibitions, with a few exceptions. Skip the Goddess exhibit at the Met. With long lines, it is a small showing of how modern couture relates to that of the Greeks. It makes a weak link at best, and is not worth your time. The French taste for Spanish painting is far better, and is an eclectic collection of Manets and Velazquez and their symbolic interplay. The Guggenheim is worth a visit only for the interior architecture and to go running in the indoor loop. Besides, no one has any clue,

Mamma Mia

Mamma Mia is the ultimate in cheese: not Cheddar, but Stilton. It is a perennial crowd pleaser, with hundreds of 40-year-olds — audience, not cast members — dancing to ABBA music in the aisles, and brightly and ornately dressed characters prancing around on stage.

The musical interludes are hilarious, not as intentional comedy, but as a morose scene is when juxtaposed with the somber character suddenly breaking out in joyous song. This pattern repeats itself over and over, yet the audience imbibes every moment of the unadulterated fermented cow's milk.

Central Park Summerstage

These free acts are presented all summer long. Some of the events, such as Wilco and Sonic Youth, are benefit concerts which require an entrance fee. Most, such as de la Soul and various blues and jazz concerts, are all free (first come, first served) on most Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays throughout the summer. A full listing can be found at <http://summerstage.org>.

Thoroughly Modern Millie

Thoroughly Modern Millie was thoroughly

enjoyable. Based on the 1960s movie of the same name, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* incorporated a score of 15 songs, interweaving a standard plot: girl comes to New York from Kansas, looks to get married, etc. The music is the strength of this musical, as all the razzle-dazzle singing in a 1920s art deco backdrop is far more appealing than the all-too-familiar plot progression. *TMM* won 6 Tonys last year including Best Musical, Best Leading Actress in a Musical (Sutton Foster), Best Featured Actress in a Musical (Harriet Harris), Best Choreography, and Best Costume Design.

With all these bests, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* can't be all that bad.

The Brooklyn Bridge

The architecture of this bridge is amazing. Constructed in the early 1900s, it is a mass of wood planks, stone and steel cable wires. Walk across the bridge any sunny day, and you will get the best view of Manhattan for free. In the middle, admire the construction, as the multitude of cars whiz by directly under your feet.

Urinetown

As unappealing as the name sounds, *Urinetown* was one of the best musicals this year. The musical is set in the public urinals of a shady part of town. It therefore epitomizes cost-efficiency, as the set is as minimalist as one can get: a few toilets, dingy walkways, and some random props (compares a

multi-million dollar set such as *La Boheme*). When the plot revolves around the insurrection of the proletariat demanding their right to pee freely, one can only take the characters so seriously. Therein lies the humor and the joy of this musical.

Urinetown's music flows smoothly and is extremely well integrated with the plot, unlike a few nameless musicals where the characters sing for no reason out of the blue. Another thumbs up!

Cirque Du Soleil — Varekai

This was the best entertainment seen in New York this year. With incredible set design and a multitude of glowing neon costumes, the feast for the eyes was spectacular. The acts of twirling dancers performing incredible feats that defy any written explanation have to be seen in person. No other show in New York has such a diverse array of cast members, from little children juggling boomerang bells to French elderly comedians transcending language to bring smiles to an equally diverse crowd. This show is all fun and games until you realize that \$95 a ticket is a little bit more than a small dent in your wallet. Nonetheless, this show is worth it.

New York is only four hours and \$10 away (Chinatown to Chinatown, that is, or \$20 one-way for a Greyhound ride). With all this and more to see, it would be quite unsettling not to take a break from the academic environment of Cambridge.

THEATER REVIEW

A Spunky Comeback

Thumbs Up for Black Theatre Guild's 'Spunk'

By Chikako Sassa

Spunk
 Sidney & Pacific Multipurpose Room
 May 15-16, 8:00 p.m.
 Adapted by George C. Wolfe
 Music and Lyrics by Chic Street Man

The Black Theatre Guild (BTG) was back on stage after a two-year hiatus, lightly, slightly, and politely asserting their mandate to showcase culturally specific works of theater pertaining to minorities, especially African Americans, in order to enrich the MIT community at large. So they got into their zoot suits with the reet pleats and got out to skivver around and do everyone some good, Zigaboo style — you dig?

BTG couldn't have chosen better to celebrate their comeback than *Spunk*. Originally consisting of three one-acts, the play was adapted from short stories written by Zora Neale Hurston (1901-1960), an exemplary advocate of the dignity and independence of Afro-American culture. Through intimate portrayals of African American life in Hurston's native Florida and in New York during the height of the Harlem Renaissance, "Sweat" and "Story in Harlem Slang" offer answers to the question, "What makes life worth striving for during rough times?" something we could have all related to on those two nights in mid-May treacherously close to final exams.

In "Sweat," Delia has lived the life of a married slave for fifteen years to self-unemployed and adulterous Sykes, bound by a mis-

guided matrimony of love on one hand and carnal desire on the other. Marital bliss lasted barely two months before Sykes began beating Delia, the savagery of which one village neighbor compares to "men dat takes a wife lak dey do a joint uh sugar-cane." Sykes pathologically gnaws on Delia while she desperately tries to remain optimistic in the face of injustice, and fills her fearful house with suds and sweat as she launders for the pay Sykes doesn't bring home.

What reassures Delia to keep on sweating are her "spiritual earthworks against her husband." Her pious attendance at church, her countless "amens," her belief that "everybody is gointer reap his sowing" one day, eventually leads her to her salvation — a life without Sykes. The conclusion of the play does not leave us free of pity, however, when Sykes invokes the name of God but dies forgotten and unforgiven.

Jelly and Sweetback, two Harlem pimps (meaning male prostitutes), had come to Harlem from the South, seeking free dinners, shots of cheap likker, maybe room rent, and a reefer or two in exchange for professional dalliance. In reality, they sleep (alone) all afternoon to appease their un-fed stomachs, and take quick backward looks at their shoe soles to see how the leather is holding out. When the two meet on the Avenue, insults and lies are hurled both ways in a stalemate attempt to outshine one another. Humor emerges here because the insults actually reinforce Jelly's and Sweetback's shared state of pathetic pimp-hood and, more broadly, their black brother-

hood: expressions like "I don't deal in coal" ("I don't keep company with black women"), "Free schools and dumb negroes," "My people! My people!" (satirical expression when a black person comments on the backwardness of some members of his race), mock the self as well as the other and prevent either from taking oneself too seriously. This ability to avert misery by strategic bantering rather than aimless violence is what fuels the chaotic and creative life force behind Jelly and Sweetback.

Zora Neale Hurston weaves these tales together with delightful strands of Harlem slang, colored by a sense of warm and vital human connection. Incredible attention is afforded to the spoken rhythm of African American life, and the original short stories read almost like empirical studies in cultural anthropology — ethnographic pictures painted with words, not pigments, that painstakingly depict the struggles blacks faced during a time when the Civil Rights Movement was stirring in the wake of *Brown v. Topeka Board of Education*.

George C. Wolfe, the playwright, takes Hurston's word-paintings and sequences them into dynamic tableaus, leaving the stories open to interpretation beyond the literary medium by adding delicious movement, music, and histrionics. The music provided by Chic Street Man contributes a deeper resonance with the rhythm of African American culture — notably the blues — and binds the actors together with their audience with irresistible clapping of the hands.

As director, Margeaux Randolph '04 must have encountered numerous obstacles in leading the show to its fulfillment. She had less than two months to run the entire gamut of show business from auditions to opening night. According to Lincoln Chandler G, the cast members often had to convene for four-hour rehearsals when their lives were already

spinning top speed as the semester accrued academic urgency.

BTG had not put on a show since their memorable and outstanding production of *Unfinished Women Cry in a No Man's Land While a Bird Dies in A Gilded Cage* in May of 2001, which made *Spunk* a doubly tough act to follow. In addition, their cavernous yet nondescript venue at Sidney & Pacific proved unfit for the intimacy of scale called forth in *Spunk*. Rows of sterile folding chairs for the house prevented an informal exchange between actors and audience and effectively killed the camaraderie.

In general, the resulting performance on opening night ran low on professional stamina as cast members appeared tentative about their presence on stage and generally seemed discouraged about the non-turnout. But the entire production team did profess an amateurish exuberance and — in the spirit of genuine theater — seemed elated about each other's company and the work they have accomplished together.

Unmistakably stellar performances did highlight the evening: Afiya A. Whisby '04 displayed remarkable breadth and agility in her facial and bodily expressions, portraying the boisterous humanity of Man Two and Sweetback to dazzling effects. The *agape* of Delia the washerwoman was superbly embodied by the innocent, almost complacent, earnestness of Ivana Sturdivant '04, attesting to the fact that gentleness and patience can triumph over cold-blooded violence. The costumes were solid — especially the zoot suits with the reet pleats on Jelly and Sweetback. And what undoubtedly brought the team together to its synergistic heights were a few strategic decisions made by Randolph and her cheerful leadership. The bottom line: the Black Theatre Guild is back to share the MIT limelight, and they've never been spunkier.

DEF TUV TUV OPER OPER

Easter 1987, Age 5



Easter 1988, Age 6



Easter 1989, Age 7



Lorien Lea Denham.

Killed by a drunk driver on Good Friday, March 29, 1991, at College Park Drive and Hwy. 19 North in Meridian, Miss.

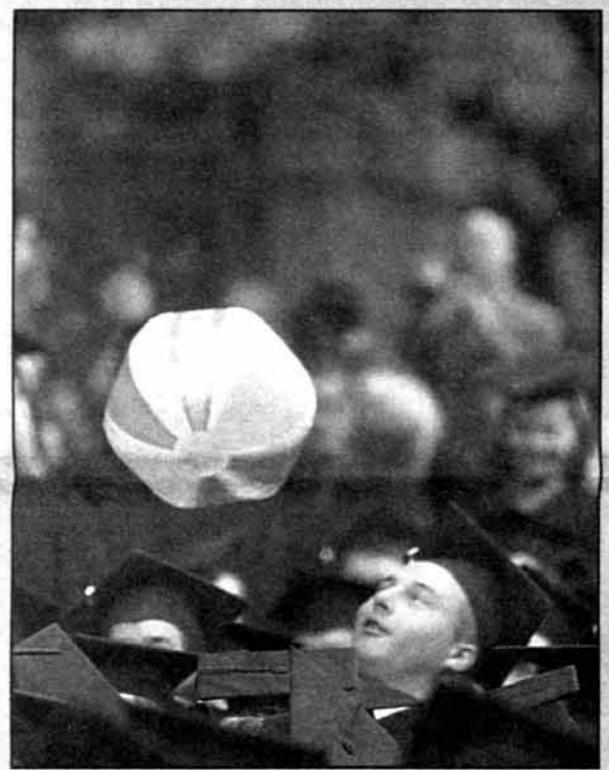
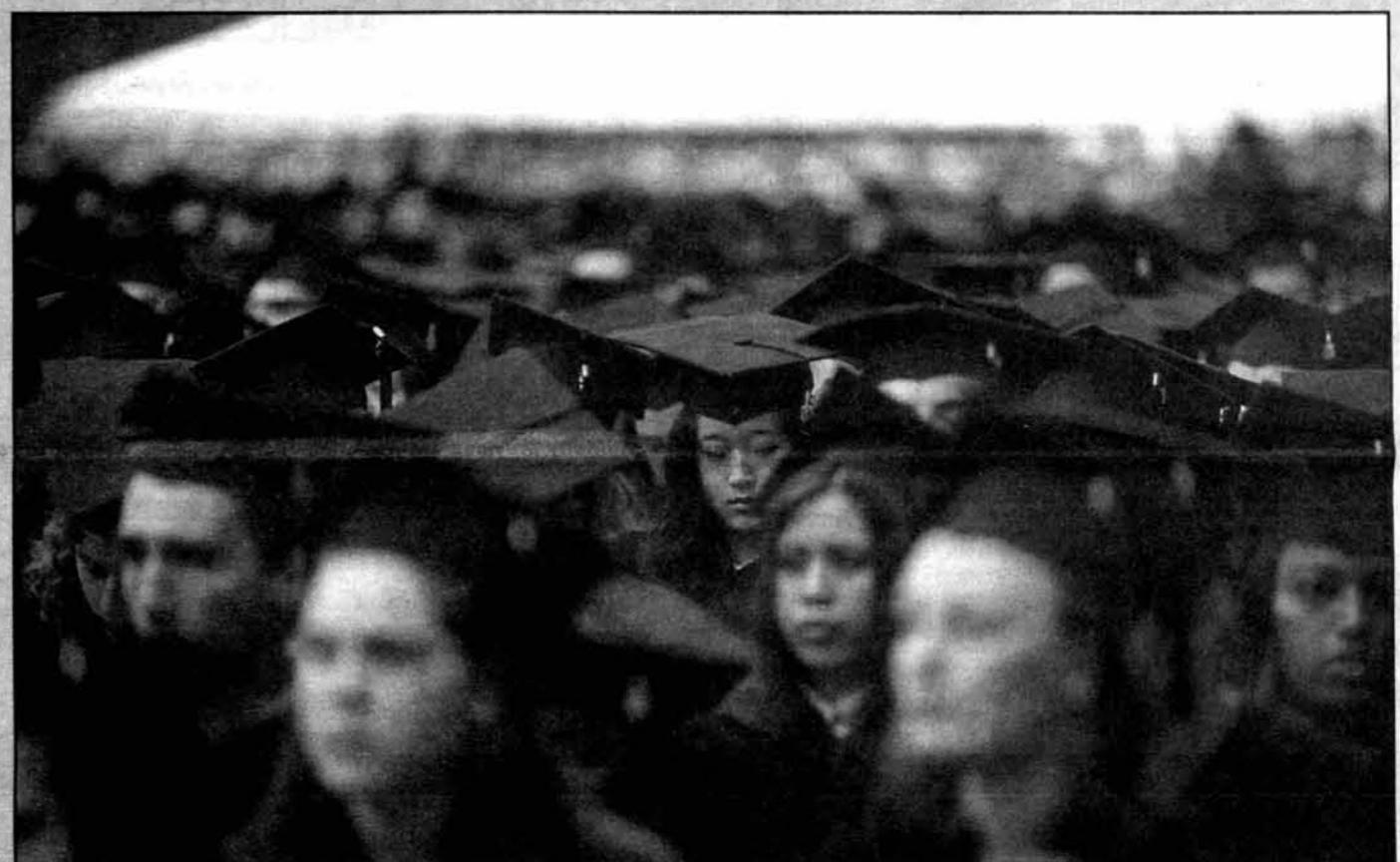
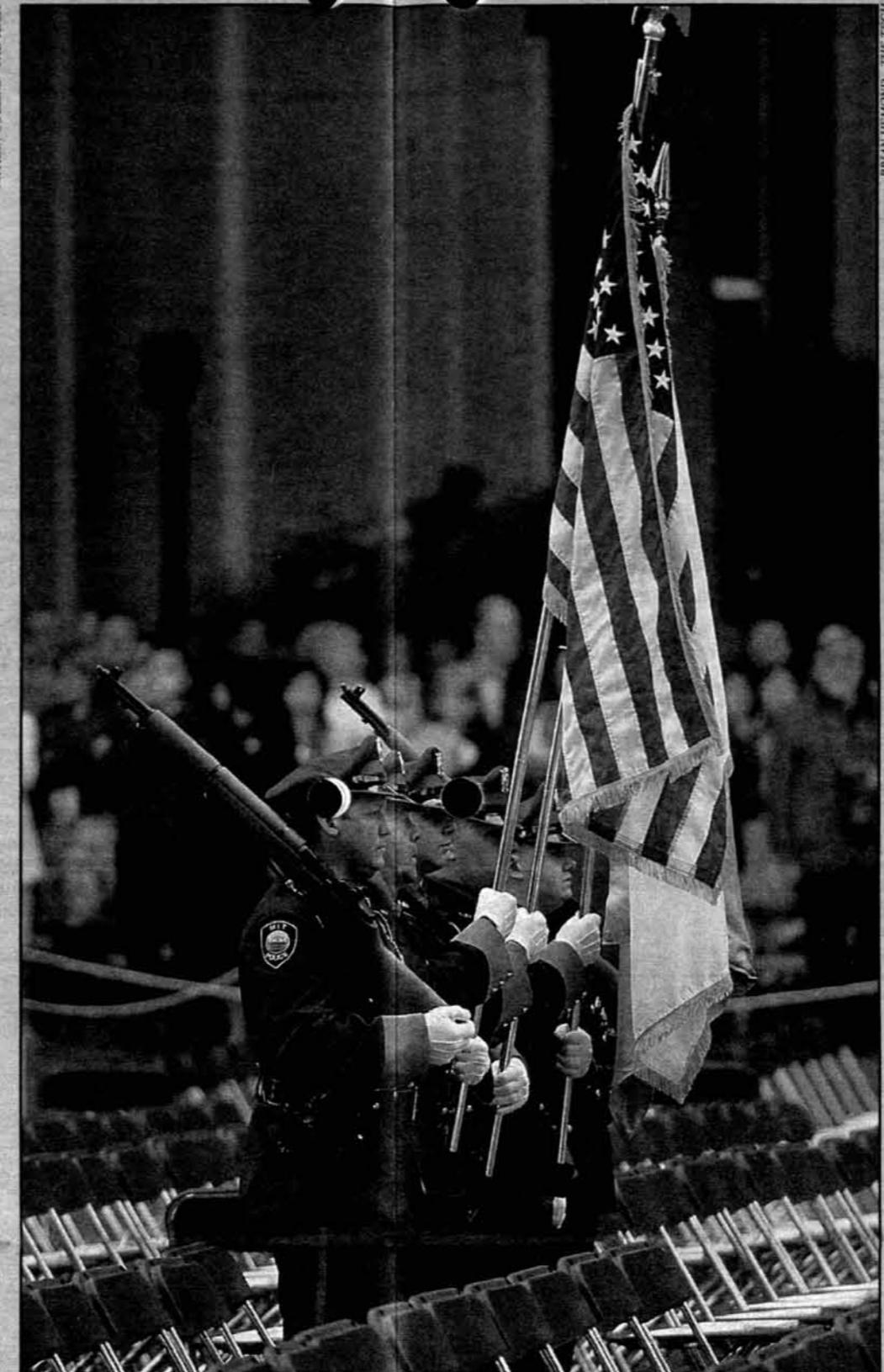
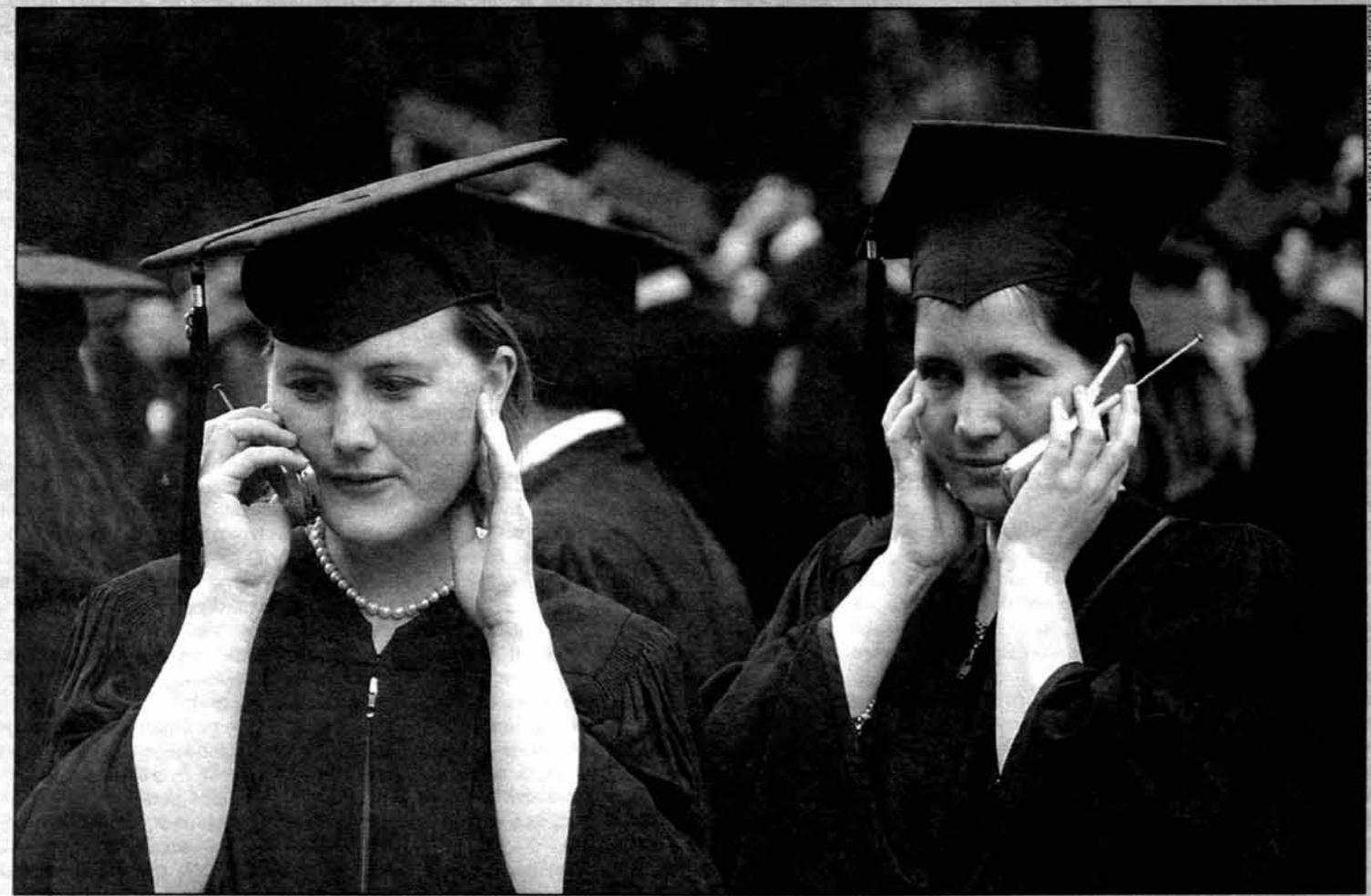
If you don't stop your friend from driving drunk, who will? Do whatever it takes.

FRIENDS DON'T LET FRIENDS DRIVE DRUNK.

U.S. Department of Transportation

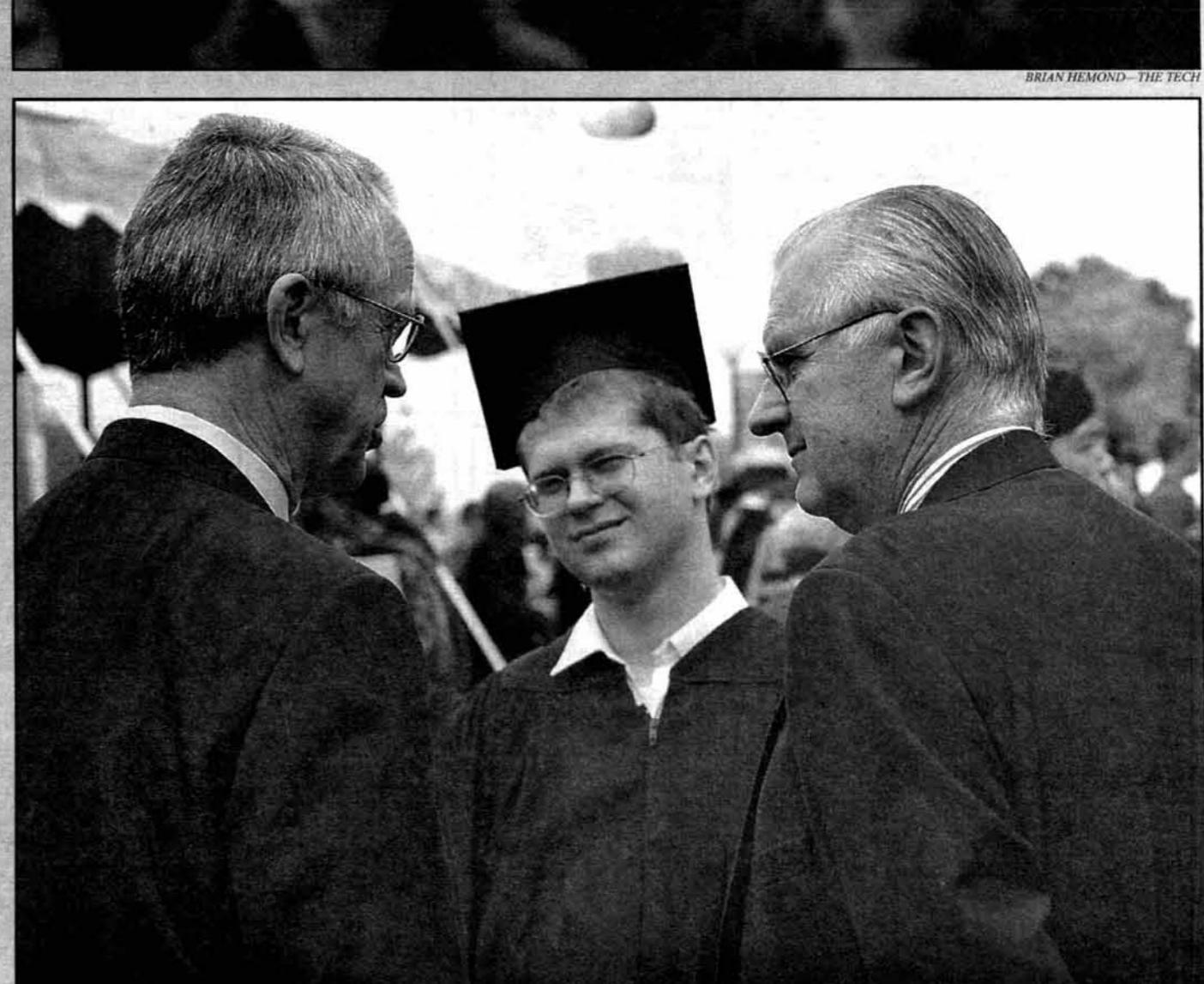
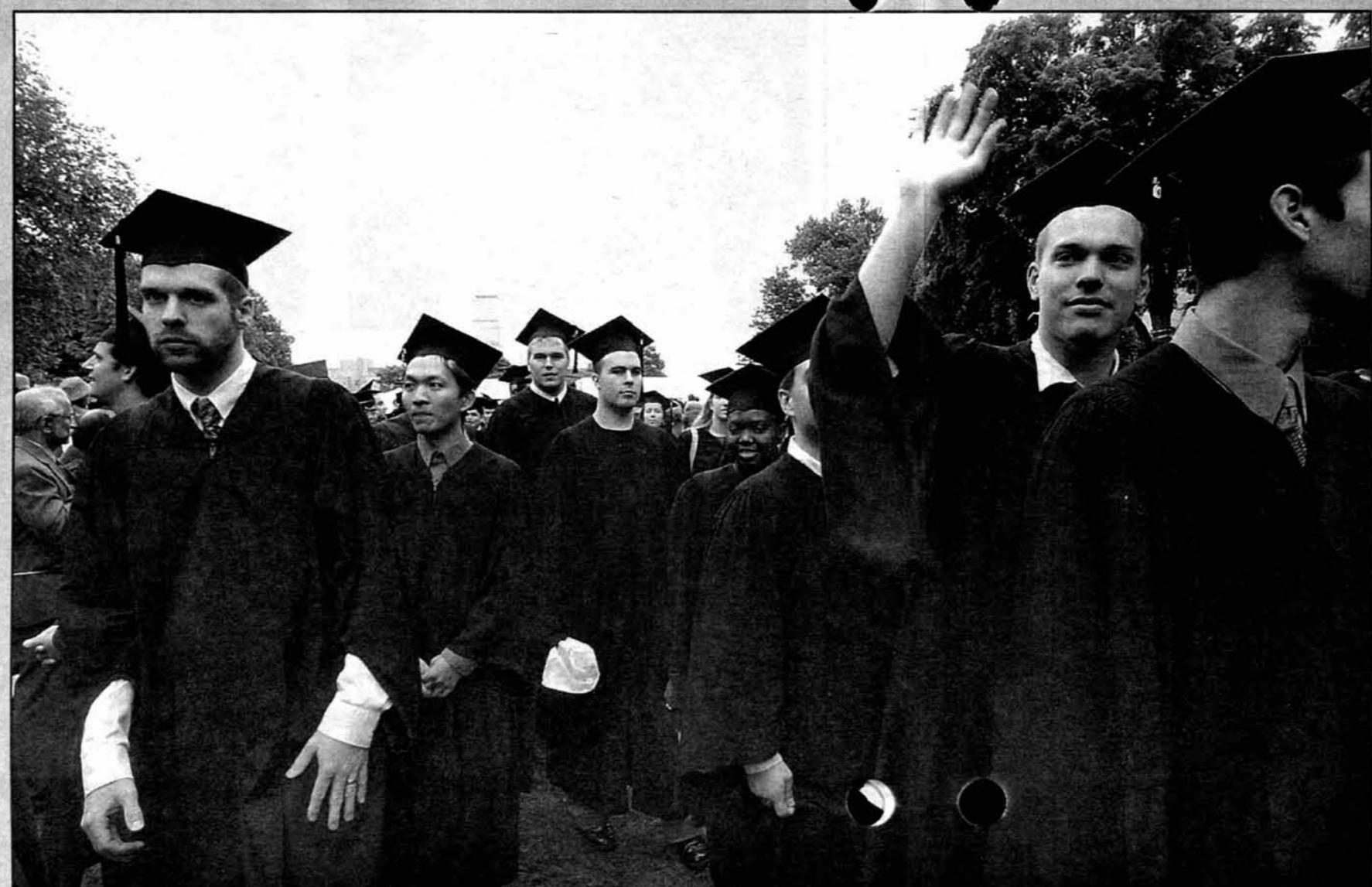
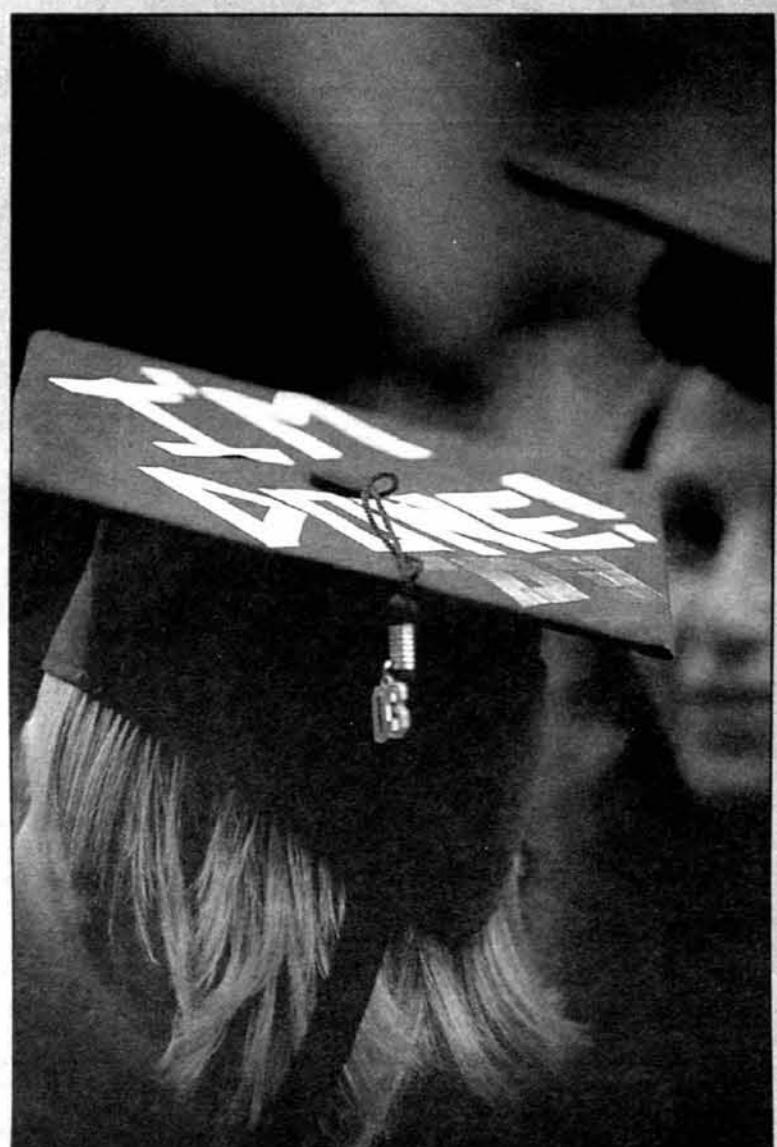


GRADUATION



Commencement was held in Killian Court last Monday under cloudy skies. Clockwise from top left: Amanda E. Dickson G and Noa Havilio G — and many others — use their cellular phones to talk to friends and family in the commencement audience. An honor guard leads the commencement procession into Killian Court. Members of the class of 2003 gather in Johnson Athletic Center before marching to Killian Court for commencement. Students listen to Institute president Charles M. Vest's commencement address. Institute President Charles Vest (left) greets a graduate and his father following the commencement ceremony. MIT faculty and staff, members of the Class of 1953, and more than 2000 soon-to-be graduates file on to Killian Court. A graduate proclaims her freedom from the Institute with a message on her cap. A beach ball briefly provided entertainment for graduates waiting to receive their diplomas in Killian Court.

2202 Graduates, 241 Minutes and One Beach Ball



BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

NATHAN COLLINS—THE TECH

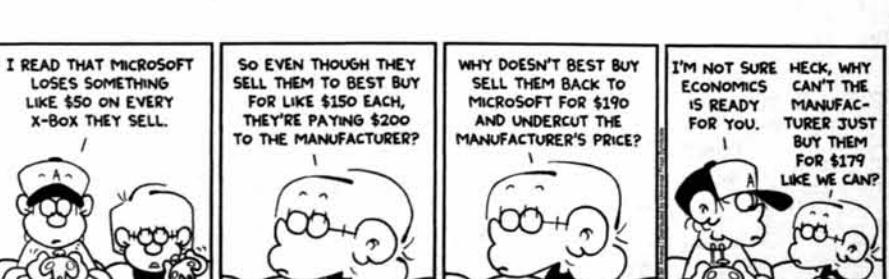
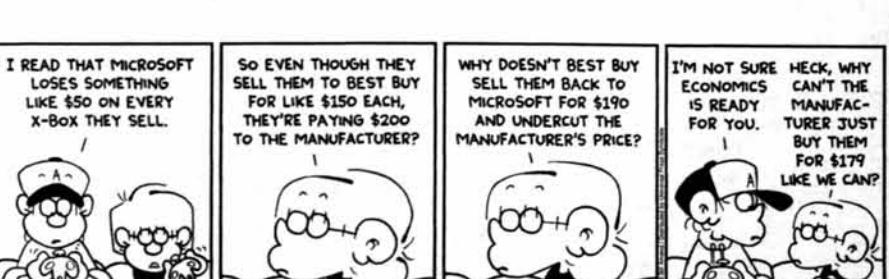
DANIEL BERSAK—THE TECH

CONICS

FUN PAGES

FoxTrot

by Bill Amend



I READ THAT MICROSOFT LOSES SOMETHING LIKE \$50 ON EVERY X-BOX THEY SELL.

SO EVEN THOUGH THEY SELL THEM TO BEST BUY FOR LIKE \$150 EACH, THEY'RE PAYING \$200 TO THE MANUFACTURER?

WHY DOESN'T BEST BUY SELL THEM BACK TO MICROSOFT FOR \$190 AND UNDERCUT THE MANUFACTURER'S PRICE?

I'M NOT SURE. HECK, WHY CAN'T THE ECONOMICS IS READY FOR YOU. THE MANUFACTURER JUST BUT THEM FOR \$179 LIKE WE CAN?

Events Calendar

Visit and add events to Events Calendar online at <http://events.mit.edu>

Events Calendar appears in each issue of *The Tech* and features events for members of the MIT community. *The Tech* makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of this information, and *The Tech* shall not be held liable for any losses, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from attendance of an event. Contact information for all events is available from the Events Calendar web page.

Wednesday, June 18

All Day – Second M.I.T. Conference on Computational Fluid and Solid Mechanics. Sponsored by Conference Services. Kresge Auditorium, Classrooms. More info: 253-1700.

9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. – CISR Summer Session 2003. Current Issues in Managing IT: Leading IT for Strategic Agility*–P. Weill, J. Ross, E. Brynjolfsson, T. Malone, E. Westney, C. Gibson, M. Treacy. Sponsored by Center for Information Systems Research. MIT Campus: E25-first floor. More info: 253-6657.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Object Lessons: A Peruzzian Puzzle. Gary Van Zante, Curator of Architecture and Design. Sponsored by MIT Museum. MIT Museum | N52, 2nd FL 265 Mass Ave Cambridge. More info: 253-5927.

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. – SAPweb: Purchasing on the Web. Lisa Lucenti (Financial Systems Services). Sponsored by Information Systems. N42 Demo Center. More info: 253-7685.

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Spouses&partners@mit meeting. Sponsored by spouses&partners@mit, MIT Medical. Student Center. More info: 253-1614.

5:10 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. – Service with dinner to follow. Sponsored by Lutheran-Episcopal Ministry. MIT Chapel and W11. More info: x3-0108.

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. – Bible Study. Sponsored by Baptist Student Fellowship, Baptist Campus Ministry.

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – TMRC Build Time. Sponsored by Tech Model Railroad Club (TMRC). N52-118. More info: x253-3269.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – Boston Linux and Unix User Group. Sponsored by MIT User Groups. 1-190.

7:30 p.m. – Ham Radio Exams. Sponsored by MIT Radio Society. TBD - See Signs @ 1-150. More info: 253-3776.

8:00 p.m. -10:00 p.m. – IFILM Seminar (BLUE by Kieslowski). Sponsored by International Film Club. 4-237. More info: 252-2686.

8:30 p.m. -11:30 p.m. – Swing Dancing. Sponsored by Lindy Hop Society. Student Center 2nd floor.

Thursday, June 19

9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. – CISR Summer Session 2003. Current Issues in Managing IT: Leading IT for Strategic Agility. P. Weill, J. Ross, E. Brynjolfsson, T. Malone, E. Westney, C. Gibson, M. Treacy. Sponsored by Center for Information Systems Research. MIT Campus: E25-first floor. More info: 253-6657.

10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. – CMI Exchange Programme Summer Workshop. Sponsored by Cambridge-MIT Institute (CMI) Undergraduate Exchange Office, cmi-events. More info: 253-3561.

12:00 p.m. -1:00 p.m. – Noon Bible Study. Barbara Beevers. Sponsored by Baptist Campus Ministry. W11 Board Room. More info: 253-2328.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. E-Zone customer forum. Paul Motroni, Department of Facilities. Sponsored by Department of Facilities. E25-117. More info: 253-2835.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Orientation to Computing at MIT. Lee Ridgway (IS). Sponsored by Information Systems. N42 Demo Center. More info: 253-7685.

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. – Weight Watchers at Work! Sponsored by Weight Watchers. – Women's Lounge-Room 8-219.

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. – Free Conversational English Class. Barbara Beevers. Sponsored by Baptist Student Fellowship, Baptist Campus Ministry. W11, Board Room. More info: 253-2328.

4:00 p.m. – The MTL Chamber Players. Sponsored by Microsystems Technology Laboratories. Killian Hall. More info: 253-6869.

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. – Robin Radin: "Secrets and Revelations–Photographs from Jamaica Plain playgrounds." E52-466 (50 Memorial Dr). More info: 253-9455.

7:00 p.m. - 12:00 p.m. – Spring BBQ. Sponsored by Graduate Student Council, Edgerton House Residents' Association. Edgerton House.

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – LIVEmusic@theEAR: Typhoon Ferri. Sponsored by The Thirsty Ear Pub. The Thirsty Ear Pub. More info: 258-9754,

9:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – Coffee Hour. Sponsored by Ashdown House. Hulsizer Room (W1).

10:00 p.m. -11:59 p.m. – Movie Night. Sponsored by Ashdown House. Big TV Room (W1).

11:59 p.m. – Campus Disc Golf. Sponsored by Campus Disc Golf. Student Center steps. More info: 267-2199 x3315,

All Day – Second M.I.T. Conference on Computational Fluid and Solid Mechanics. Sponsored by Conference Services. Kresge Auditorium, Classrooms. More info: 253-1700.

Friday, June 20

9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. – CISR Summer Session 2003, Current Issues in Managing IT: Leading IT for Strategic Agility. P. Weill, J. Ross, E. Brynjolfsson, T. Malone, E. Westney, C. Gibson, M. Treacy. Sponsored by Center for Information Systems Research. MIT Campus: E25-first floor. More info: 253-6657.

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. – CMI Exchange Programme Summer Workshop. Sponsored by Cambridge-MIT Institute (CMI) Undergraduate Exchange Office, cmi-events. University of Cambridge. More info: 253-3561.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Writers Group. Sponsored by Writing and Communication Center. 14N-417. More info: 253-4459.

1:10 p.m. -1:50 p.m. – Muslim Friday Prayer. Sponsored by Muslim students' Association. W11-110.

4:32 p.m. – Acoustic BBQ. Sponsored by Graduate Student Council, Techlink. On lawns in front of Walker Memorial on Memorial Drive.

7:00 p.m. -11:59 p.m. – MIT Anime Club: Fam & Ihrie save the world; Lina Universe, the madcap RPG world of "Slayers." Sponsored by Anime Club, MIT. 4-237.

7:30 p.m. -9:00 p.m. – Bible Study. Sponsored by Asian Baptist Student Koinonia Graduate Division. 1-150. More info: 781-883-4271.

8:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. – Sangam Movies. Sponsored by Graduate Student Council, Sangam.

8:00 p.m. – The Animatrix. Sponsored by LSC. 26-100. More info: 258-8881.

8:00 p.m. -10:00 p.m. – Spike Lee's Do The Right Thing. Sponsored by MIT Social Justice Cooperative. 4-231. More info: 253-4816.

All Day - Second M.I.T. Conference on Computational Fluid and Solid Mechanics. Sponsored by Conference Services. Kresge Auditorium, Classrooms. More info: 253-1700.

Saturday, June 21

8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. – Scuba Club Dive. Sponsored by Graduate Student Council, Scuba Club. North Shore MA.

4:30 p.m. -1:00 a.m. – TMRC Build Time. Sponsored by Tech Model Railroad Club (TMRC). N52-118. More info: 253-3269.

8:00 p.m. -11:30 p.m. – Sangam Movie Special. Sponsored by Graduate Student Council, Sangam. 2-105.

8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. – Patrol. Sponsored by Assassins' Guild, MIT. 36-115.

Sunday, June 22

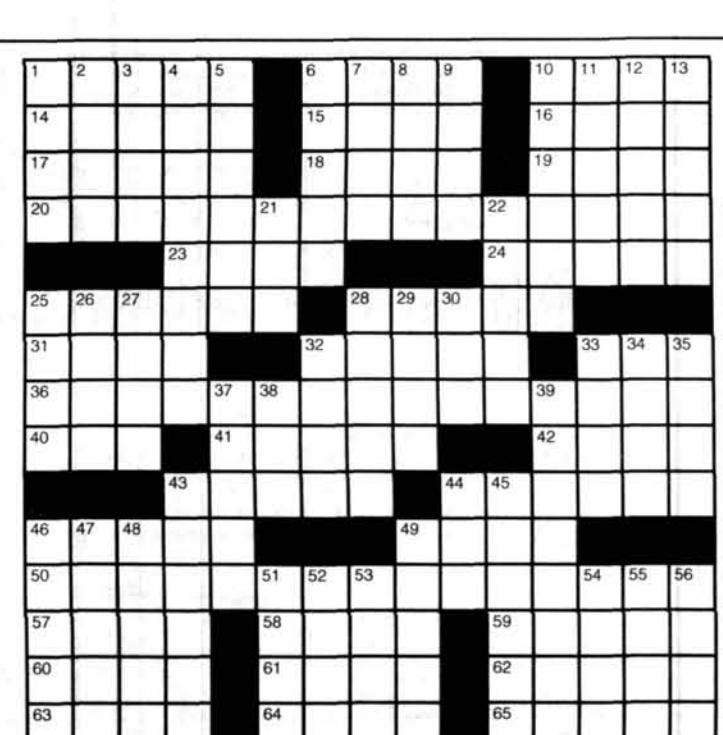
8:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m. – Soil & Rock America 2003. Various Speakers. Sponsored by Conference Services. Kresge Auditorium. More info: 253-3598.

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. – Catholic Mass. Sponsored by Tech Catholic Community. MIT Chapel. More info: x3-2981.

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Underwater Hockey. Sponsored by Graduate Student Council, Scuba Club, Undergraduate Association. Z-Center Pool.

8:00 p.m. – The Animatrix. Sponsored by LSC. More info: 258-8881.

ACROSS	location	4 Perplex	34 Trading center
1 Nestling	43 Friday's ID	5 Prepares to propose	35 Influence
6 Ragout	44 Like a baguette	6 Flippant	37 Factory
10 British trunk	46 City north of Salt	7 Pitfall	38 Young man
14 Gaseous element	Lake	8 Buff color	39 Discouraging
15 Keystone site	49 Steer clear of	9 Fluttering sound	43 Brutal characters
16 Lowdown	50 Club	10 Knight's neighbor	44 Fidel confederate
17 Detached	57 Ages and ages and ages	11 At hand	45 Putin's place
18 Jaipur attire	58 Suggestive beginning?	12 Helpful	46 Soap or horse follower
19 Floor	59 Edge along	13 Shadings	47 Aggregation
20 Club	60 Litter's littlest	21 Hamlin pest	48 Metaphysical poet
23 Oil of	61 Squeeze in	22 Idle talks	49 Trample
24 Aspirations	62 River of Kashmir	25 Houston campus	51 Second-rate writer
25 Hale and hearty	63 Mimics	26 Racetrack shape	52 Angler's doodad
28 For a song	64 Coarse seaweed	27 Rover's exclamation	53 Space-saving abbr.
31 Tennis champ Lendl	65 Old World lizard	28 Glasgow's river	54 Icelandic literary work
32 Rub it in	1 Rugged cliff	29 Gardener's tools	55 Grad
33 German river	2 Luminous ring	30 Knack for music	56 City near Phoenix
36 Club	3 Image of worship	32 Band of hoodlums	
40 Rockies grazer		33 Work units	
41 Touches down			
42 Taj Mahal			
DOWN			



Grad Housing Lottery Runs More Smoothly

Housing, from Page 1

choice," he said.

The lottery ran in two rounds. In the first round, 930 new students applied and 831 received housing, while only 235 continuing graduate students received housing out of 1100 who applied.

In the second round of the lottery, run in early June, 170 students were given assignments, "including approximately 60 continuing students in Tang Hall on a one-year license agreement," Gray said. Many continuing graduate students were assigned to doubles in Ashdown in this round.

Last year, students were given a ranking and notified of assignments

as they became available in the course of the summer. Many students had already secured housing by the time they received their assignments.

"This year, the Graduate Housing Office completed well over 95% of the process before Commencement — a great improvement over last year," Gray wrote in an e-mail. Students enter the lottery with the understanding that they will accept their assignments if given them.

"We don't want someone to capriciously join the housing lottery," Gray said. "We need to hold [those assigned housing] accountable." The roughly 80 students who declined their assignments in the first round will be fined \$250.

Gray said he expects a vacancy rate of about 2 percent, with all vacancies expected to be filled by the middle of the summer.

Housing prices low this year

Meanwhile, graduate students not given MIT housing will have to look elsewhere.

According to Linda L. Patton, the assistant director for off-campus housing, the market for private apartments is currently quite good. "There are more apartments available than tenants. This is forcing rents to go down," she said.

Patton attributes this to the poor economy and the loss of jobs in the greater Boston area. "We have not seen this volume of available housing in twenty years," she said.

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Sport Taekwondo Recognized

By Jennifer Krishnan

NEWS EDITOR

More than two and a half years after they first applied for recognition, the Sport Taekwondo Club is finally an official MIT club sport.

The Sport Taekwondo Club gained recognition from the recently formed Club Sports Council last month. It is the only new group so far to earn CSC recognition.

"It's such a relief," said Timothy R. Kreider '04, president of the Sport Taekwondo Club. "It's been this struggle ever since I joined the group [as a freshman]. ... It's like part of our existence that we're not recognized."

Though the club only gained recognition recently, members have been competing in Ivy/Northeast Collegiate Taekwondo League tournaments since March 2001. Kreider said that members of the club attended every tournament this year, and the club sent an average of 30 contestants to each contest. He and founder Christina S. Park '02 estimated current club membership to be about 50.

The Sport Taekwondo Club practices "Olympic-style Taekwondo," Park said.

The fact that they train for competition is the main thing that separated them from the Tae Kwon Do Club and the Korean Karate Club, said Marita C. Barth G, a CSC officer.

Process reform causes delay

Park said she and Master Dan Chuang first submitted paperwork seeking recognition from the Association of Student Activities in fall of 2000.

By all accounts, the club's long road to recognition was an anomaly. In January 2001, the ASA declared a moratorium on new athletic clubs, while a committee revamped the club sport approval process.

Prior to the formation of the CSC, some club sports were recognized by the ASA, some were under the Department of Athletics, and some were recognized by both. When the CSC was formed at the

end of spring 2002, all these clubs were placed under the jurisdiction of the CSC, Barth said.

The CSC governs sports clubs that are primarily instructional or competitive.

Each existing club must reactivate its membership annually. This process now takes place during the spring term, and the CSC considers applications for new clubs at the same time, Barth said.

CSC clubs are a subset of ASA groups, Barth said. They are entered into the ASA's database and allowed to participate in ASA recruiting activities.

There are currently 37 club sports recognized by the CSC. The CSC is also considering applications for two other new clubs, the Synchronized Swimming Club and the Running Club.

Students frustrated by delays

Park said that when they first applied for recognition, the ASA "deferred us ... telling us that we had to make some changes to our constitution." These changes were "mostly cosmetic," Park said.

She said they were also asked to meet with the Tae Kwon Do Club to consider merging the two groups, but that the meeting was largely unproductive and that they concluded that the clubs' missions were fundamentally different.

Park and Chuang resubmitted their application, but "they kept deferring us ... then they pushed us to [the CSC]," Park said.

Park said she became frustrated because "we weren't necessarily given the information we needed." She said that the club submitted "about five or six" revised applications to the ASA, and that each was deferred for a different reason.

"I became very bitter and very disheartened" as the process dragged on, Park said.

Jennifer S. Yoon '03, former ASA president, said the club was exceptionally unlucky because of the timing of its application.

"They sought recognition during the period during which we called the moratorium" on new club sports,

Yoon said.

The club submitted its initial application in fall of 2000. The moratorium took effect in January 2001.

Yoon said that in general, the length of the recognition process "depends on how dedicated the students are. ... It can be as short as two weeks if they're really good," or it can go on for a long time, since "we have a six-week shelf life on every application," and "every time they submit new paperwork, that six weeks starts over."

Club had to prove uniqueness

Park said the Sport Taekwondo Club had to show first the ASA, then the CSC, that it was different from the Tae Kwon Do Club.

Yoon said that "when the purposes are so close and there's just one small difference," a new club might be asked to merge with an existing club, so that the ASA can conserve its "strained resources."

Park said the Tae Kwon Do Club was "not supportive of us." While they agreed that the clubs were not compatible and should not merge, "They didn't feel we were necessary."

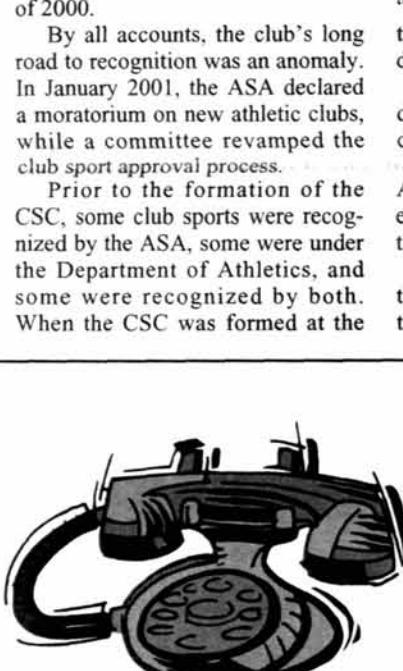
Barth said that a club sport might not be recognized if it is "primarily recreational," if it has "far-away competitions," or if it duplicates the efforts of another group.

The CSC looked into whether the Sport Taekwondo Club was substantially different from both the Tae Kwon Do Club and the Korean Karate Club.

"What the difference came down to for us was that ... a lot of them [in the Sport Taekwondo Club] are learning to compete," Barth said.

Leaders of the Tae Kwon Do Club could not be reached for comment.

Barth said the CSC was in the process of talking to some existing club sports about merging, but that that was a longer-term process. "It's harder in the martial arts, [where they are] dedicated to learning a certain style." Of 37 existing club sports, 12 are martial arts groups.



Useful Telephone Numbers

MIT Information	x3-1000
Academic Services	x3-6776
Computing Help Desk	x3-1104
Campus Facilities	x3-1500
Medical Center (urgent)	x3-4481
Campus Police	x3-1212
non-emergency	x100
emergency	
Cambridge Police	349-3300
Time & Temperature	.637-1000
Nightline	x3-8800
CopyTech	x3-2806
MIT Coop (Kendall)	.499-3200
The Tech	x3-1541
LSC Moveline	x8-8881
SIPB	x3-7788
UA	x3-2696
GSC	x3-2195

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For more information or to see if you qualify call 1-800-231-3373 ext. 41 or visit us on the web at www.cryobank.com.

Solution to Crossword

from page 11

CHICK	STEW	BOOT
RADON	ARCH	INFO
ALONE	SARI	STUN
GOLFER	SPUR	CHASE
ROBUST	OLAY	HOPES
IVAN	GLOAT	EMS
CARD	PLAYERS	DRAW
ELK	LANDS	AGRA
OGDEN	BADGE	CRUSTY
PROATHLETIC	SHUN	
EONS	AUTO	SIDLE
RUNT	CRAM	INDUS
APES	KELP	AGAMA

Ad
Council

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MIT Department of FACILITIES

CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Stata Center

Glass installation at the Dreyfoos light court is ongoing. Waterproofing inspection and window installation in metal and brick is ongoing. The Stata Center garage is now open for parking. Pedestrians should use designated walkways to ensure safety from the construction areas.

Vassar Streetscape

The entrance lane from Building 39 to Vassar Street will be closed for one week to allow for the new roadway to be built. Traffic will enter and exit at Building 39 on the east side of the building. Continuing walkway construction between Main Street and Mass. Ave. may cause shifts in pedestrian access routes.

Brain and cognitive sciences project

Pile driving is underway and will continue for several months. Noise, dust, and vibration may result.

Baker House

Stucco restoration and window installation continue at the north stair. Window removal and replacement at southeast and east elevations will begin soon. Ductwork removal, plaster repair, and masonry cleaning will begin in the north stair. Residents are encouraged to use the elevator and west fire stairs to the lobby level throughout the construction period (through mid-August).

Building 48

Relocation of Building 48 occupants to buildings NE20, E19, NW14, and 5 is complete. The interior of Building 48 will be cleaned in preparation for renovations soon. Construction will begin later this summer.

Details about the landscaping program at MIT can be found at: <http://web.mit.edu/facilities/www/renovations/landscape/>

Vest to Graduates: 'You of All People Stand Ready'

Graduation, from Page 1

Ireland, which ultimately resulted the Good Friday peace agreement, he "formed the conviction that there is no such thing as a conflict that can't be ended. Conflicts are created, conducted, and sustained by human beings" and human beings can end them, he said.

As a result, Mitchell said he believes that the conflict in the Middle East can be ended. Mitchell chaired a committee that made recommendations for the conflict in the Middle East, and a week before the commencement ceremony, Israel and the Palestinian Authority accepted the statement.

In order for the two parties to reach a lasting solution, both must negotiate, Mitchell said. The difficulty in finding such a solution is that "the circumstances and objectives of the two sides differ. Neither can attain its objective by denying to the other side its objective," Mitchell said.

Specifically, Mitchell said that the Israelis have a state but want security, and the Palestinians want "an independent, economically viable, geographically contiguous state."

Nonetheless, Mitchell said that serious problems in implementation have already existed and will continue to exist, but it is possible to end the conflict.

Mitchell addresses responsibilities

Following his discussion of conflict resolution, Mitchell gave the graduates responsibilities and advice for the future.

"You've had the good fortune to receive an advanced education, so you have an important role to play

in preserving and improving our way life," Mitchell said.

Although every graduate has their own list of society's domestic challenges, Mitchell said his consisted of providing every child with a good education, the basics of healthy human life, and equal opportunity and equal justice.

Mitchell concluded his address on a lighter note by giving more advice to the graduates in the form of some jokes.

He described the importance of taking pride in whatever you do by comparing a plumber and a philosopher. Quoting John Gardner, Mitchell said that "an excellent plumber is infinitely more admirable than an incompetent plumber" because a society that tolerates poor philosophies but neglects the value of plumbing will ultimately have neither good plumbing nor good philosophy. "Neither its pipes nor its theories will hold water."

Finally, Mitchell addressed the importance of fulfillment. While he said that it is inevitable and appropriate to devote one's life toward the quest of income and status, fulfillment does not result from success. Instead, it comes from the use of "physical and spiritual might for a worthwhile objective that helps others that is larger than ... self-interest."

Wijesinghe finds beauty in MIT

Graduate Student Council President H. Sanith Wijesinghe G then addressed the audience by reflecting upon memories and experiences.

Although Wijesinghe said that beauty is relative and its definition becomes useless relative to abstractness, he described some of the

exciting moments in the MIT experience. These include receiving the letter of acceptance, orientation, residence selection, one's first class, one's first problem set, and of course, events with free food.

Aside from the unique problem set style at MIT, Wijesinghe said that the quality that makes MIT students unique is their unbounded passion. This passion pushes the limits of research and can help reach solutions for society.

Finally, he advised the graduates to maintain relations with the student groups and student leaders who will face the same challenges that the graduates faced while at MIT.

Nazemi presents MIT traditions

After delivering numerous statistics about the Class of 2003, Class of 2003 President Sina Kevin Nazemi also offered the graduates and the audience some advice.

First he said that if your GPA is suffering that you should cross-register at Harvard University.

After reminding everybody how graduation represents the work of loved ones, he reminded the graduates that much is expected from what they were given. "We can leave MIT merely being reactive ... [but] it is my hope that we leave as active citizens."

The graduates can thus leave trying to engage in the world's problems and reflect where they can make an impact.

Nazemi then proceeded to partake in two MIT traditions.

First, he told the graduates to turn their brass rats around to let the world know that they are MIT graduates.

Then, he presented the Senior Class gift, which consisted of

\$21,187 in donations from roughly a quarter of the class. The gift is a seal of the institute that will be in Lobby 7 and a scholarship.

Vest concludes the ceremony

President Charles M. Vest concluded the ceremony by greeting the Class of 1953, the families and friends of the graduate, and by describing the opportunities and responsibilities for the graduates.

As graduates of MIT, Vest said that "you of all people stand ready to drive these advances and lead their wise applications." He likewise told them that as they work to advance or apply scientific and engineering knowledge, it is necessary to understand the social, political, economic, artistic, and historical contexts.

Although the social and political world is pulled together trends in globalization, education, and information technology, for instance, it is also fragmented by politics, poverty, hatred, absolutism, and fear, he said.

Nonetheless, as a result of opportunity comes responsibility, he said, because this education has been a privilege. Vest told the graduates that their task is to shape the future and to be more than smart and knowledgeable but to also be courageous, creative, and compassionate. "We expect no less from you," Vest said. "We are counting on you."

Vest also referred to fulfillment in the service of contributing to the world. He urged the graduates by building a community that embraces and values differences and works toward the betterment of all people.

Class of 53 reflects on differences

Graduates from the Class of 1953 said they were delighted to be

in attendance at the Class of 2003's graduation.

Ron Spring '53 said that MIT students today are better prepared for the workforce than when he was at MIT because today's graduates are incredibly computer literate. Spring said that it was very special for him to be able to be back at MIT 50 years later.

Robert Rivers '53 said how the job market today is different from when he was entering it. When he was a student, "you used to look for a job in the United States in your field." Instead, he said that people must think in terms of the competition in the world labor supply.

Audience enjoys ceremony

Graduates and their families were happy to be in attendance. Some students were festive in their decorations to their cap. Others were simply enthusiastic participants in the ceremony. Course 16 undergraduates threw paper airplanes as they were called to receive their diplomas. Sloan students gave loud cheers for their classmates as they were called to walk.

Brian Clarke, father of Kimberly A. Clarke SM '03, said that the commencement speakers were great. "[Mitchell] was brief, to the point, and timely with world events," he said.

Saik-choon Poh G, who was receiving his MEng degree, said that Mitchell "gave graduates a perception of what is going on. Everything we do is directly or indirectly related to world affairs."

As for graduating from MIT, Poh said that "it feels to nice to have graduated."

"I don't know what to say," he said. "I can't wait to get out of here."

Mitchell's Address to the Class of 2003

The following are former Senator George J. Mitchell's remarks at MIT's 137th Commencement on June 9, 2003, provided by the MIT News Office.

To the graduates, their families and friends, it's an honor for me to be part of this important day in your lives. I know that many of you already are worrying about how long I'm going to speak. So I begin by reassuring you that my intention is to stop speaking before you graduates stop listening.

I've been asked to discuss my work in conflict resolution in Northern Ireland and the Middle East. Mindful of the commitment I've just made, my comments will have to be brief.

I spent five years working for peace in Northern Ireland. For almost all of that time there was no progress. There was political posturing, delay, doubt and many people died. After each death I spent a sleepless night trying to fight off a growing feeling of despair and failure. But after years of effort, a peace agreement was finally reached.

From that experience, I formed the conviction that there is no such thing as a conflict that can't be ended. Conflicts are created, conducted and sustained by human beings. They can be ended by human beings.

After completing my work in Northern Ireland I was asked to go to the Middle East. There, the committee which I chaired made recommendations, which have been incorporated into the "road map," recently advanced by the United States, the United Nations, the European Union and Russia.

As we all know, last week it was accepted by Israel and the Palestinian authority. Although only a first step, that acceptance was significant and it reinforces my conviction that like all others, the conflict in the Middle East can be ended.

Among the steps we recommended and which are included in the road map are, by the Palestinian authority: the renunciation of violence, an end to hatred and incitement, and a 100% effort to crack down on terrorism, an effort which has not yet been made. By the government of Israel: the withdrawal of its military forces to their pre-Intifada positions and the freezing of all settlement construction activity. Then, there must be a prompt resumption of negotiations to achieve a two-stage solution.

What is most important is that both recognize that the only way to achieve a lasting solution is through negotiation. If they are to succeed, illusions must be abandoned on both sides. Some Palestinians and other Arabs continue to believe that they can destroy Israel and rid the Middle East of a Jewish state. That cannot and will not happen. It is a fantasy that will only generate more misery and suffering on both sides. Some Israelis believe and advocate that all of the Palestinians, every man, woman and child, can be

physically uprooted and moved to another country. That cannot and will not happen. It, too, is a fantasy.

Contributing to the difficulty of finding a peaceful resolution is the fact that the circumstances and objectives of the two sides are different. The Israelis have a state. What they want is security. That is their overriding objective. The Palestinians don't have a state and they want one, an independent, economically viable, geographically contiguous state. That is their overriding objective.

I believe that neither can attain its objective by denying to the other side its objective. Palestinians will never achieve a state if Israel does not have security. Israel will never get sustainable security if the Palestinians don't have a state.

There are some in both societies, perhaps some here today, who disagree with this assertion. But for me, it has been validated by the tragic events of the past two and a half years. Our committee's report was very tough on terrorism. We branded it morally reprehensible and unacceptable. It is also politically counterproductive. It will not achieve its objective. To the contrary, with each suicide bomb attack, the prospect of a Palestinian state is delayed. Such tactics also are destructive of Palestinian civil society and the reputation of the Palestinian people throughout the world.

The road map offers Palestinians the alternative of a non-violent path to a Jewish state, to a Palestinian state living in peace alongside a Jewish state, the two-state solution that a majority on both sides continue to say they support.

Palestinians in turn must accept that the Israeli demand for security is as real and as necessary as is their demand for a state. Both are more likely to occur if reciprocal steps are taken to create a context in which meaningful negotiation can be conducted. This can't be done by the two sides themselves. Their mutual mistrust is total. The culture of peace, so carefully nurtured over the previous decade, has been shattered. In its place there has developed a sense of futility and despair of the inevitability of conflict.

And yet public opinion polls on both sides show consistent and strong majorities in support of a two-state solution and of the political process needed to bring it about.

But because of the impact of the prolonged violence, a majority of Palestinians support suicide bombings of Israelis and a majority of Israelis support the use of whatever force is deemed necessary to suppress such attacks. In other words, majorities on both sides largely agree on the solution, but they no longer trust the other side's intentions to reach it. They're caught in a zero-sum contest in which both are suffering.

Time does not permit me to repeat the long list

of our committee's recommendations or the details of the road map. Most attention has been given to the cessation of violence and incitement by Palestinians and a freeze on all settlement construction activity by Israelis. I have already commented on and condemned the failure of terror to advance the Palestinian cause. As to settlements, our committee adopted what has been the policy of every American administration for more than a quarter of a century.

During the more than 50 years of its existence, Israel has had the strong support of the United States. In international forums the US has at times cast the only vote in Israel's behalf. Yet, even in such a close relationship, there are some differences. Prominent among them is the United States government's long-standing opposition to the government of Israel's policies and practices regarding settlements. That US opposition has been consistent through the Carter, Reagan, Bush, Clinton and Bush administrations; just as consistent has been the continued settlement activity by the Israeli government. In his major policy speech on the Middle East last year, President Bush was explicit. He said, and I quote, "Israeli settlement activity in the occupied territories must stop, consistent with the recommendations of the Mitchell Committee." The road map also refers specifically to our recommendations on settlements.

As we read in this morning's newspaper, there already are serious problems in implementation of the road map's recommendations. There will be more. So I don't underestimate the difficulties, but I believe that an end to this conflict is possible.

It is especially important that we Americans not turn away when the inevitable setbacks occur, that we not resign ourselves to the inevitability of conflict. American commitment and determination are essential to the preservation of a sovereign and secure Israel and to the peaceful and just resolution of the conflict in the Middle East. There as elsewhere there is a universal human desire to lead lives that are full, free and meaningful.

Because of the wisdom and foresight of our founding fathers, we're fortunate to live in a society, which despite its imperfections is the most free, the most just, the most open society in all of human history. From that society each of us receives many benefits. With benefits come responsibilities. You've had the good fortune to receive an advanced education, so you have an important role to play in preserving and improving our way of life. There's much for all of us to do.

Each of you students, graduates, undergraduates, every person present today, will have your own list of our society's domestic challenges. I will mention just a few that are important to me.

If you believe as I do that every American child is entitled to a good education, regardless of

background or family wealth, you must oppose any actions, which have the effect of denying them that opportunity.

If you believe as I do that we have an obligation to leave for future generations the very basics of healthy human life, clean air, pure water, unpolluted land, you must demand public policies to honor that obligation.

If you believe as I do that every American is entitled to equal opportunity and equal justice, you must speak out against all forms of discrimination and injustice.

Never forget that in the presence of evil, silence makes you an accomplice. The education you've received at this great institution is important, even necessary, but it is not a guarantee of self-worth. It is not a substitute for a life of effort. How you do it is important, just as important as what you do. If you take pride in what you do, you will excel. If you do not take pride in what you do, you cannot excel. John Gardner put it best when he wrote, "An excellent plumber is infinitely more admirable than an incompetent philosopher. The society which scorns excellence in plumbing because it regards that as a humble activity and tolerates shoddiness in philosophy, because it is an exalted activity, will have neither good plumbing nor good philosophy. Neither its pipes nor its theories will hold water."

For those undergraduates going on to further education I have some advice on what not to do. I serve as the Chancellor of the Queen's University of Northern Ireland. Last December, our students took a graduate school entrance exam. One of them, frustrated by the difficulty of the questions, wrote, in answer to the last question, "God alone knows the answer to this question. Merry Christmas." Two weeks later he got his paper back with this note: "God gets an A. You fail. Happy New Year."

You are part of a highly privileged elite in the education you've received, in the opportunities that will be available to you. It is inevitable and appropriate that you devote much of your life to earning the income you need to support yourself and your family. Like all human beings you will want status and wealth, and most of you will get them.

But the more successful you are, the more evident it will become to you that there's more to life. You will find that fulfillment in your life will not come from the expensive things you acquire, not from leisure, not from self-indulgence. Real fulfillment in life will come from striving with all of your physical and spiritual might for a worthwhile objective that helps others that is larger than your self-interest. Most of all for you graduates, I hope that each of you is fortunate enough to find such an objective in your life.

Congratulations, good luck, may God bless each one of you.

Your UROP Professor bores you?

Wanna try something different this summer?

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DANIEL BERSAK—THE TECH



Opinion Photo Production Sports Technology

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Z-Center, Sailing On New Summer Hours

By Emily M. Craparo

MIT's athletic facilities have switched to reduced summer hours as of June 10.

Notable among the changes are a reduction in the operational hours of the Zesiger Sports and Fitness Center and a reduction in the days of operation of the MIT Sailing Pavilion.

The Z-Center currently operates from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekends. On Sept. 2 it will resume regular session hours of 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday, and 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Sunday.

Daniel Martin, an assistant head of the department of athletics, does not see the reduction of hours as hindering MIT community's use of the athletic facilities.

"Less people are here [in the summer], and people have greater flexibility in their schedules," Martin said. "In fourteen hours, you should be able to make it in here."

"People should be able to make this a priority," Martin said.

Tim Moore, the Z-Center general manager, said in an e-mail that "the summer hours of the Zesiger Center and DAPER [the athletics department] facilities actually reflect an expansion in hours over last summer. The decision to change summer hours was made ... based on use patterns and requests over the past several years."

Surveys are still being conducted on use patterns of the Z-Center. Statistics are being collected for each half-hour block of operation in an

effort to determine peak loads, Martin said.

Sailing closed on Monday

The MIT Sailing Pavilion has also reduced its hours of operation for the summer.

The pavilion is currently closed on Mondays and is open from noon to sunset on Tuesday and Thursday, 3 p.m. to sunset on Wednesday and Friday. On weekends it is open from 10 a.m. to sunset. It is also open until midnight on every full moon.

On Sept. 6 the pavilion will increase its weekday hours to 4 p.m. through sunset on Monday, and noon through sunset Tuesday through Friday. Weekend hours will remain unchanged.

"I don't see it was seriously affecting access to getting on the water," said Sailing Master Francis E. Charles Jr. "We did it in such a way that it's an absolute minimal effect."

"Most of our users come down after work," Charles said.

Daniel Martin agreed, noting that most people sail on weekends and that Monday is typically a low-traffic day.

Fees same despite reduced hours

Although the athletic facilities are open for fewer hours during the summer, membership fees for non-student affiliates remain unchanged.

The fee, Martin says, is still "way below market."

"We don't take it lightly when we look at fees," Martin said. Martin also said the department does not anticipate an increase in fees in the coming year.

Five of 322 Applicants Admitted as Transfers

By Keith J. Winstein

NEWS AND FEATURES DIRECTOR

Out of 322 applicants, only five students were admitted for transfer admission this fall, according to the admissions office. The students are from Wellesley, the American University of Beirut, the University of Bucharest, and the University of Tartu, Estonia.

"We generally admit more transfer students for the fall than this, but because of our freshmen numbers this year ... we admitted fewer transfers to ensure that we bring no

more than 1020 new students into the housing system this fall," wrote Marilee Jones, the dean of admissions.

"[C]urrently we are at 1030 freshmen enrolling," Jones wrote. "Many of them will 'melt' over the summer, but it still looks like we'll see about 1015 freshmen enrolling," she wrote.

The numbers are expected to cause some crowding in undergraduate dormitories. Transfer students, unlike freshmen admits, do not receive guaranteed housing.

Faculty Voted to Push ROTC, Defense Department on Gays in 1996

ROTC, from Page 1

15.305 [Leadership and Management]," Baker said. "Although many of those students participate in the ROTC, it's open to the entire student body," he said. "This is one excellent opportunity for anyone on the student body to participate."

Baker also cited an upcoming Independent Activities Period offering taught by ROTC, known as Leadership (15.952).

The ROTC programs themselves do bar openly gay students, Baker said. "A law says — this is not Army policy nor is it an ROTC policy — 'Don't ask, don't tell.' I'm not interested in one's sexual preference and I'm not going to ask about it," he said.

"But if offered by the individual, they may become ineligible to earn a commission" as an officer in the military, he said. "If there were a paraplegic on campus, for instance, who could not earn a commission because of medical reasons, they're still able to take a class on leadership. So the services we provide the university

are available to everyone," he said.

Gays in ROTC long-term issue

The Institute's pledge not to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation was added to the nondiscrimination statement in 1981. No mention of ROTC's prohibition on openly gay students was made until 1990, when the faculty voted to ask President Vest to appoint an ROTC task force "with the expectation that inadequate progress toward eliminating the DOD policy on sexual orientation will result in ... making ROTC unavailable to students beginning with the class entering in 1998."

The vote coincided with a change in the statement, adding a footnote that "The ROTC programs located on the MIT campus do not fulfill all of the elements in the above statement. This discrepancy is currently under review by MIT."

The task force, headed by Professor Stephen C. Graves, recommended a compromise instead — a modified ROTC program in which "all MIT students will be eligible to enroll, without qualification or reservation,

City Enacts Amended Smoking Ban, Excludes Private Groups

Smoking, from Page 1

tion. Because Somerville does not have a smoking ordinance on the books, it was able to enact the ban through the health department and without any action by the city's board of aldermen, Vondras said.

Framingham's smoking ban, enacted by the board of health, faced a legal challenge that centered on the fact that the city already had an ordinance.

The Somerville ban, which was anticipated by supporters of Cambridge's ban, reduces fears that business from smokers will cross the border to Somerville.

Ban passed with amendments

Simmons introduced several amendments to the Cambridge measure at the June 9 council meeting during which the ban, with the amendments, was passed. The amendments removed an exemption for private clubs, set an implementation date of October 1, and mandated that an implementation committee include members of the "entertainment industry."

In her remarks to the council shortly before the body voted,

Simmons acknowledged her key role in making the long languishing ban law: "I may be the deciding vote," she said, "For nine months I labored over this issue."

Simmons said that she has "always supported [the ban], but I wanted to minimize adverse impact on businesses. The amendments introduced by Simmons, notably the inclusion of private clubs such as Veterans of Foreign Wars posts, were apparently included to minimize the impact of the ban on the business of Cambridge bars. Simmons said that including the private clubs would create a "level playing field" for all businesses.

While seven councilors voted in favor of the ban, the tenor of the debate prior to the vote suggested that support for the ban was weaker than the large margin by which it passed would

suggest.

Councillor Kenneth Reeves, who eventually voted in favor of the ban, was particularly vocal in criticism. Reeves questioned the need for a ban when, he said, only 17 percent of Cambridge bars and restaurants allow smoking. He also attacked the workplace safety arguments raised by the pro-ban forces: "second-hand smoke does not kill anyone."

Reeves also said that the law was overly intrusive. "We live in a world that is increasingly controlled by others," he said. "I'm very afraid that 'meat is murder' is around the corner," he said of his worries that laws restricting other aspects of life would follow the smoking ban.

Councillor Anthony Galluccio, who also voted in favor of the bill, repeated his beliefs that regulating workplaces fell into the jurisdiction of the state and national government. "Our federal government has sold out to the tobacco industry," Galluccio said. He cited his support of an order requesting that the state regulate workplace smoking and bemoaned the "patchwork

of regulations" that city-by-city bans have created.

Toomey, one of the two councillors who voted against the ban, said he abhored smoking and is "hopeful for the day tobacco is outlawed worldwide," but that a state-wide ban is the "fairest way" to ban smoking in workplaces. Toomey is also a state representative and has co-sponsored a smoking ban in the state legislature.

Public opinion mixed

The public testimony section of the June 9 meeting was divided. Opponents of the ban arrived with placards that read "Tobacco control is out of control" and "smoking bans are fascist." Supporters sported the green stickers of Clean Air Works, an organization dedicated to promoting smoking bans in Massachusetts.

Opponents compared the ban to McCarthyism, prohibition, and forced sterilization. Arguments in favor of the ban were equally emotional. One supporter asked councillors to protect pregnant women from the hazards of second-hand smoke.



Opponents of Cambridge's smoking ban protested in the city council chambers June 9 prior to the ban being voted into law.

FRANK DABEK—THE TECH

in any of the three ROTC units conducted at MIT provided they meet the required physical fitness standards of the relevant ROTC units."

"The Task Force expects that within two years [by 1998] tangible progress will be made in achieving the modified ROTC program," the recommendations said. "If movement toward an inclusive and nondiscriminatory ROTC program cannot be discerned at that time, then the Faculty should consider possible further action."

The recommendations were ratified by the faculty in 1996. Work on the modified ROTC program stalled shortly after the committee began its work, said Clay, who became the new head of the ROTC Implementation Committee, pointing to the decreasing optimism in the committee's annual reports to the faculty. That committee became dormant this year "because there is no current agenda or active projects," Clay wrote in his annual report.

"I think it's a disappointment for sure" that the proposal was not realized, Graves said. "One would have

hoped for more progress, but I think there are a lot of things that are sort of beyond the control of what we can do on campus."

"The important question is whether the Institute is updating its position on ROTC, or just deleting the outdated sentence," wrote Brian A. Rubineau '93, a member of the group Defeat Discrimination at MIT whose work led in part to the faculty's 1990 vote.

"MIT needs to remain active in resolving this incongruence," he wrote. "If MIT allows this gross contradiction between principle and practice to go neglected, or abandons its responsibility to rectify the problem, then MIT is showing that it is, in fact, NOT 'in full support of non-discrimination,'" as former Provost John M. Deutch '61 described MIT in 1990.

Reinsurance policy adopted

Rubineau saluted MIT on adopting another part of the 1996 Task Force recommendations, a plan to "reinsure" students who lose their ROTC scholarships because of their

sexual orientation.

MIT has adopted the policy, Clay said, although no students have used it or been kicked out of MIT ROTC on account of sexual orientation since 1990. At least one student had previously lost an ROTC scholarship because of his sexual orientation.

It is not clear how many students are aware of the policy. The 1996 faculty recommendations say, "The MIT Bulletin will publicize this new policy of reinsurance for DOD scholarships. Students applying to MIT should know that their DOD scholarships will be reinsured if they are subject to the 'don't ask, don't tell' policy."

But the policy was not published in the MIT Bulletin — it is not clear why — and is not advertised to students interested in the Army ROTC program. "That is not something that I make clear to students interested in ROTC, although I am aware of it," Baker said.

Representatives of the Navy and Air Force ROTC programs, and the Department of Defense, did not return a request for comment.

SPORTS

Freddy Got Fingers

By Phil Janowicz
COLUMNIST

Facing the best the NL Central had to offer, the Red Sox breezed through the Houston Astros with a sweep of the broom. On Saturday, everything was working for the Sox with

Column

Derek Lowe's sinker working and with the dazzling defensive display of rookie utility infielder Freddy Sanchez. Freddy flashed some amazing glove work at third base and ended the game with ten assists, one shy of the major league record. After the seventh inning, during which he assisted on every play, the 34,562 on hand chanted, "Freddy! Freddy!" Freddy Sanchez, welcome to Boston.

Derek Lowe was the main reason for all the groundballs. Of Lowe's 22 recorded outs, only one was a fly-ball, Biggio to lead off the game. When asked about his performance Lowe said, "[As opposed to earlier in the season] Now I'm getting ahead in the count and can work my sinker. Before, I had to play catch-up." Only one sinker left the infield Saturday, a towering blast by Jeff Bagwell, his first in 140 at-bats, off the Vanilla Coke sign above the Green Monster. "Yeah, it was some good advertising," quipped Lowe.

Jano awards

Batting: Reed Johnson of the Toronto Blue Jays. On Sunday, Reed "Howard" Johnson homered in the game's first and last at-bats to give the Jays the win over the Cubs Sunday.

Honourable Mention: Eric "Ouch, It" Byrnes. Not a day goes by when he doesn't do something worthy of a Jano. Byrnes has

homered in three straight games to lead the A's over the struggling Expos.

Pitching: Roy Oswalt, Pete Munro, Kirk Saarloos, Brad Lidge, Octavio Dotel, and Billy Wagner of the Houston Astros. These guys combined for a no-no-no-no-no hit at Yankees stadium for the most pitchers ever used in a no hitter.

Oswalt had to leave the game after the first inning because of an injury, but the bullpen, which has carried the team so far this season, once again came through brilliantly, recording 11 Ks in eight innings of work, including a four K performance by Dotel in the eighth. Munro was the only pitcher to surrender some walks, but Brad Ausmus made sure to keep the situation under control.

Honourable Mention: Dontrelle Willis of the Florida Marlins. This performance should be worthy of a full-blown Jano award any other week, but a no-hitter beats out a one-hitter. Dontrelle "Whatchu Talkin' Bout" Willis one-hit the Mets Monday to beat Tom Glavine in a pitchers' duel for the ages. Glavine pitched very well, giving up only a solo shot to Pudge, but Willis was too much for the terrible Mets offensive offense. And Willis's control was on, walking only one batter all game and throwing the first complete game shutout of his young career.

Utility: Freddy Sanchez of the Boston Red Sox. You are the man, Freddy.

Honourable Mention: Milton Bradley of the Cleveland Indians and Paul Lo Duca of the Los Angeles Dodgers. After a brief heated exchange of words Saturday, the two made up during Bradley's first two at-bats. He tapped his bat on Lo Duca's shin guards, and Lo Duca told him he overreacted to Bradley's taking off of his batting gloves



ANDREW THOMAS—THE TECH

Red Sox third baseman Freddie Sanchez signals two away in the seventh inning of Saturday's game against the Astros. Sanchez recorded ten assists, one shy of the major league record, in an 8-2 victory.

after he hit a homer. It's good to know that good sportsmanship still exists in the big leagues, especially between two of the league's best hitters.

Boner of the Week: New Jersey Devils fans. Okay, I know this is hockey, but this REALLY bothered me. When Jean Sebastian Giguere won the Conn Smythe trophy

for MVP of the whole playoffs, the fans in New Jersey booed him. I do have respect for the Devils themselves who gave a hearty ovation for Giguere, but now I hate New Jersey even more than I already did. I thought that was hard to do.

Honourable Mention: Troy Glaus. No hits all week?! That's not All-Star caliber.



DANIEL BERSAK—THE TECH

Red Sox catcher Jason Varitek hits a two run homer in the bottom of the 9th inning against the St. Louis Cardinals last Thursday. Though the runs helped to drive the game into extra innings, the Sox ultimately lost 8-7.



PETER R. RUSSO

A red-tailed hawk sits on a railing on the roof of the Green building near the MIT Radio Society's antennas. The Society participated in this weekend's Spring VHF contest, sponsored by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL).



BRIAN HEMOND—THE TECH

Three new newsstand and message board kiosks, one with a mirror providing a view of the dome above, stand in Lobby 7.